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Haliburton County's Local Weekly Newspaper \$1.25 includes GST

Vol 2 Issue 6

Voice

County .ca

Thursday, March 5, 2009

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Dysart et al Budget a Wrap

"This is certainly not the time to put more pressure on people in business or on lower incomes."
(Reeve Murray Fearrey)

The Dysart et al Council has managed to take a difficult situation and turn it around in favour of their taxpayers. Even though Council started out with a deficit from last year, they managed to reduce the overall impact on property owners to the greatest extent possible. CAO Tammy McKelvey reports that Council and staff have done an excellent job protecting their ratepayers from the increase in assessment that could have impacted things so dramatically.

According to McKelvey, overall expenses from last year have been reduced, but one of the primary reasons for that is that grants received from outside sources have also gone down considerably from last year. The overall expenses for the year, totalling \$10,705,970 were approved unanimously by Council on Monday. This amount represents a reduction to the budget of \$412,529 from 2008.

McKelvey said that the staff worked very hard to narrow things down to the bare bones package that was presented to Council. She said, "We took last year's levy and added growth related taxes (revenue that will be received from new construction throughout the year). Unfortunately, when all was said and done, we still needed another \$85,929 and that represents a 1.9% increase in the levy for the year.

Dysart Budget cont'd... pg. 7...



What's this person doing? Find out on pg. 3...

Reeve Chastises Minden Hills Council

"There's no reason why we can't turn things around." (Reeve Jim McMahon)

Reeve Jim McMahon was absent due to illness when the Minden Hills Council passed their budget during a special meeting on February 12th but he certainly had some controversial comments to make to Council, members of the public and the press about the budget and Council's performance over the past several weeks. It was McMahon's position that false information was being disseminated to the public.

He said, "You know, in 22 years in municipal politics, with an unblemished record, I take great offence and hurt over the e-mails and phone calls that I have been receiving in the past two weeks since the passing of the budget."

McMahon said that unfortunately, information about the budget that was sent out to area cottage associations was, in his words 'not the right goods,' referring to the 12 1/2 percent increase recently reported as being approved by Council.

Despite clarifications by their Treasurer about the increase to residents' tax bills, McMahon stubbornly refused to accept responsibility for anything more than a 2 1/2 percent increase. Nor did he seem willing to assume any responsibility for the Municipality having absorbed all of the increased revenue realized from the considerable increases in assessment, something that has allowed

Minden Budget cont'd... pg. 6...

Watercolours Hearing Gets Underway

Opposition's Planner says Existing Proposal Not in the Best Interests of the Community... But Public Meeting Hears Strong Community Support for Condo

The level of anticipation and energy in the Dysart Council Chambers on Tuesday morning was palpable as lawyers and participants as well as members of the public prepared for the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) Watercolours condominium hearing to reconvene. The hearing is scheduled to last for three or four days, but it is unlikely that any decision will be made for some weeks to come. The amount of public interest was evidenced by the 70 or more people in attendance at the public session on Tuesday night.

The OMB members will consider the validity of Dysart's zoning by-law, which facilitates the 150 unit condominium, appealed by Alison Mack. During the hearing the adjudicators will also consider the impact the development could have on the community and whether the by-law is consistent with the Municipality's Official Plan, the County's Plan and Provincial Policy Statement regarding planning matters in Ontario. The appeal was made despite the by-law including a number of holding provisions put in place by Council to protect, not only the integrity of the development, but the environment and interests of the residents and businesses in the community.

One of the first changes evident to the process that started in January was the addition of a second OMB member/adjudicator. This, according to one of the legal counsel, is somewhat unusual for a hearing of this size.

The rationale for a second adjudicator was not revealed but as posturing between legal counsel started well before the hearing actually got underway, it may prove to have been a positive move. Demands from A. R. Patton (counsel for Watercolours of Haliburton) to Eric Gillespie (lawyer for Mack) to "back off, back away from me" could have been a clear indication of how the proceedings would go. However, things settled down almost immediately as the hearing got underway.

The adjudicators introduced themselves as Joseph Sniezek (Chair) and Gary O'Connor (Co-Chair) and acknowledged Gillespie as the lawyer for the appellant, Patton as counsel for the developer and Edward Veldboom as legal counsel for the Municipality.

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Nearly \$600,000 in Local School Projects Approved

J.D.H to Become Wheelchair Accessible with Future Installation of Elevator

Three schools in Haliburton County will receive upgrades to the total tune of \$590,000 for the 2009 school year.

During a board meeting held on Tuesday, Feb. 24 in Lindsay, Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) trustees gave the go ahead for several "School Renewal" projects as well as "Good Places to Learn" projects for schools across the board.

In Minden, Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) is scheduled to receive \$40,000 in renovations to basement classrooms and \$20,000 in updates to automation.

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School will have roof drains installed under its parking lot, eight rooms will be tiled, the rooftop unit and emergency lighting will be replaced and windows will get new blinds. These changes will cost \$180,000.

At J.D. Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton, accessibility will be improved with the installation of an elevator, ramp and repairs to the main entrance stairs. These changes are significant because they will make the school wheelchair accessible.

"It's good news," said Principal Traci Hubbert in a phone interview with The Voice. Hubbert pointed out that students in wheelchairs have had to go to Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden, which has one floor.

"Every child should be able to attend the school in the area," said Hubbert. "It doesn't have to strictly be used by those in wheelchairs, but those who have other mobility issues could use it as well." For instance, a person on crutches could opt to take the elevator instead of trying to navigate their way up and down stairs.

Hubbert doesn't know when the elevator will be installed, but believes it will be ready in time for the start of the 2009 school year.

The elevator will cost \$150,000 and along with it the school will get an upgraded phone system, corrections to the ventilation system balancing, repairs to the East entrance stairs and sidewalk, and new lighting for the emergency and exit signs.

Almost \$2 million worth of school renewal projects will be started in the Spring at the many schools in the board. These projects are primarily funded from a grant from the Ministry of Education allocated for major maintenance and capital work. The TLDSB has received a total of \$2.3 million from the grant, which is \$571,000 less than was expected. This is due to cutbacks that the Ministry announced in September of last year, states a recent TLDSB press release. Any unspent balance from the grant is to be reserved and used for facility renewal projects in the future.

An additional \$2.5 million was also approved by the board for "Good Places to Learn" projects, which are also funded through a Ministry grant. ■

Watercolours OMB Hearing To Continue All Week

... from pg. 1

Liz Danielsen
Staff Reporter

Joan Barnes, who lives immediately adjacent to the development site, was first to make a statement. Barnes, representing herself and her husband Michael, read a statement voicing their concerns about the development. She recognized the necessity for more housing in the community but said that that the development as proposed would be detrimental to the Village overall.

Barnes raised concerns about traffic and how existing problems on the corner in front of her would only increase with the addition of 150 units, about the loss of her view and a breeze off the lake as well as the loss of the privacy enjoyed in her terraced garden, and even the warmth of the sun that would be blocked by the development.

Barnes also voiced a fear that the development could adversely affect sources of water in the area. She spoke about the overall mass and height of the proposed building and how it would loom over her home as "the tallest building in the County." She said that the development would be the start of making Haliburton the Toronto of the north and would not be in keeping with the beauty of the area. Barnes concluded her statement by saying "you'll be paving paradise to put up a parking lot."

Barnes was questioned by both Veldboom and Patton and accepted that water studies required of the developer should allay concerns about source and quality of water. She was also advised by Patton that traffic consultants (for the developer and appellant) had conferred with representatives of MTO and reached an agreement that should resolve outstanding traffic concerns.

Rick Hunter, a professional planner from Planscape in Bracebridge, then presented evidence on behalf of Mack. Hunter, who has 31 years of planning experience, was accepted by the adjudicators and all parties involved as an expert witness, had detailed comments to make about the zoning by-law and how it related to Dysart's Official Plan (OP), the County's Official plan and the province's policy statement regarding planning matters.

Hunter's primary concerns, which were covered in depth, dealt first and foremost with the height and density of the development and the suitability of the holding provisions in the by-law. He also recommended more specific requirements for buffers and increased setbacks and made a number of references to the fact that, in his estimation, the OP does not contemplate large scale high density developments.

Hunter said, "It is my evidence that the zoning by-law amendment and the development do not confirm to the Official Plan or policy statements. The scale of the development permitted by the by-law has an impact that isn't consistent with the character of the Village and is not in keeping with the small town atmosphere prevalent in Haliburton." He also said the by-law does not represent good planning and that the municipality should have undertaken a more comprehensive review of the development.

Hunter also stated that the study required as part of the holding provisions to demonstrate adequate water supply had not been completed yet and that it would be more appropriate for that information to be known prior to passage of the by-law rather than as a holding provision in the by-law. He also

spoke to protection of the shoreline and made a number of references to the importance of protecting the natural environment, something that is stressed throughout the Official Plan.

Hunter offered an amended draft by-law for the adjudicator's consideration that recommended, among other things, a reduced building height to 11 metres (from 22.3) and limiting the development to three stories with no more than 90 units, rather than 150.

On cross examination, both Patton and Veldboom (representing the developer and the municipality) had many pointed and effective questions, particularly with respect to density. The cross examination was to continue on Wednesday, March 4th.

On Tuesday evening the hearing was upstaged by the public meeting, when over 70 people spilled out into the hallway to either participate or listen in on the process that will decide how this important development will proceed.

Fifteen presentations were made to the adjudicators and 12 of them were staunchly in favour of the development, many of them interested in acquiring a unit. As well strong presentations in favour of the condominium were also made by representatives of the Haliburton BIA, the Haliburton County Development Corporation and local business. What was clear is that almost everyone in the room, even those against the development in its present form, acknowledged the need for housing and many of them were seeking amenities and housing in the form being offered by the Watercolours group.

It should also be noted that this is a report on just the first day of the hearing, with considerably more information to be processed and testimony submitted by the one of development partners and planner, Hal Kersey. At press time evidence had only been heard from the appellant side of the issue.

The Voice will have complete coverage of the hearings in next week's issue. ■

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No more odour, no more mess to look at, and as easy to dispose of as throwing out a cereal box.

If you are a cat owner, chances are you love your pet to pieces, but you can't stand having to constantly deal with the smell of the litter box, and bending over every day to empty the kitty stools right? Trust me, I know. I have two cats. I used to try to keep the litter box as far away from our living areas as humanly possible because, well frankly I was kind of lazy about the scooping and it stank all the time, period. When I did clean the box, I found the smell overwhelming and disgusting.

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One day while in the Great Haliburton Feed Company (Industrial Park Rd,

Haliburton) I was talking with the owner of the store, Maureen about how much I hated scooping cat litter. She

mentioned a product called the Scoop Free Automatic Cat Litter Box by Littermaid. I thought I'd heard of these devices; I thought "yeah, right, probably just a lid over the thing and I still have to clean it right? Wrong!!

This thing absolutely does what the name implies. You simply plug it into the wall, pour in your litter (supplied) and a power operated 'rake' system automatically cleans the poop after each time your cat uses it. It is literally **that easy**. You NEVER have to touch it except about once a month to throw out the box which simply fits into its own lid. As easy as throwing out a cereal box! You never see or smell any litter again-just

the box (pictured below). **Refills take about 10 seconds to change** and you're done again for about one month (based on 2 cats). **You'll NEVER SCOOP AGAIN or SMELL CAT LITTER.** It's so clean, you could put the thing in your bedroom, no problem. **It's Amazing!**

"We've had one for over a year now. I'd recommend them to any cat owner. They're soooo worth the money. Our place never smells like cat litter ever. And my husband is thrilled because he used to have to change it."
Joanne Welsh. Minden Hills.

You'll Wonder How You Ever Lived Without One.

It would be a toss up between my blackberry (cell phone) and my automatic cat litter box if I had to give one up. And I couldn't live without my blackberry, trust me! I will never go back to cleaning a cat litter box again...EVER! O.K, I'm sure you're wondering how much these units cost right? Well, no they're not cheap; around \$169, but if you're a cat owner, I'll guarantee this is the best money you'll ever invest. Just think of the FREEDOM. Plus, your cats will love it too! Get yours today. You won't regret it.

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If you're ready to say goodbye to scooping and changing cat litter once and for all, stop in at **The Great Haliburton Feed Company (Industrial Park Rd. Haliburton)** or call 457-9775 today. Get yours before March 17th, and you'll get **\$10 OFF** your order with this coupon. **You'll be one of the happiest cat owners in the county!**



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Move and Groove at the SHAC



Release Your Inhibitions at Minden Studio

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

Dance is a form of art that can allow one to express thoughts or feelings without having to say a word. Whether you're a professional or are just a looking to let loose, moving to the sounds of the rhythm can be a great way to "let it all hang out" at the end of a long

work-week.

On every second and fourth Friday of the month at the SHAC (Spectrum Healing Arts Centre) in Minden, dance, good music and good vibes is exactly what you'll find. Held at 8 p.m. and hosted by Sebastian Renel, these dance sessions are open those of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

"This is a place where you can really get into dance," said Renel at the SHAC during a recent dance session.

The first dance open house of its kind was held last November. Though turnout was low for the inaugural event, word spread throughout the community, drawing out a much larger crowd for its second evening.

Renel says that the environment at the SHAC is different from that of a bar.

"It isn't a place for drinking. It's about coming out to dance," he said.

The sessions usually run anywhere from two to three hours, but for most, one intense hour is often enough.

"It's a nice way to end the work week...it's energizing," he added.

Renel says that he's also considering starting up a dance workshop in the future that would include "spiritually" connected routines.

So bring some friends and head out to the SHAC located at 1127 Bobcaygeon Rd. Odds are you'll perspire, so bring water along for the night. Admission is by donation.

For more information call Sebastian at 705 286-3372 or email sebisebasebu@hotmail.com.

THURSDAY



Mostly cloudy and seasonable

▲ 2° ▼ 1°

FRIDAY



Chance of A.M. sprinkles, then some sun

▲ 2° ▼ -7°

SATURDAY



Increasing clouds with rain/snow late

▲ 3° ▼ -1°

SUNDAY



Cloudy with showers likely

▲ 4° ▼ -2°

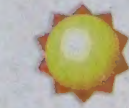
MONDAY



A.M. rain/snow showers, then some sunshine

▲ 1° ▼ -10°

TUESDAY



Mostly sunny and seasonable

▲ -1° ▼ -10°

WEDNESDAY



Increasing afternoon clouds

▲ -1° ▼ -3°

AROUND THE REGION: Dry weather will be experienced on Thursday as skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the lower single digits. Light rain will be possible Thursday night with sunshine returning on Friday afternoon. Lows Thursday night will be near zero while highs Friday will be in the single digits. Another storm system will bring rain and snow to the area late Saturday into Sunday.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers



Feb 28, 2009

02 08 26 46 48 49

Bonus Number 34

Encore 3793491



Feb 27, 2009

04 19 24 25 27 33 34

Bonus Number 32

Encore 2018738

TROPICAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk
Acapulco	29/22/su	29/21/su	32/22/pc	Montego Bay	26/21/su	26/21/su	28/22/su
Antigua	29/23/ts	28/22/pc	26/22/su	Nassau	22/13/pc	24/18/su	24/20/su
Barbados	31/24/pc	31/25/pc	28/25/pc	Port au Prince	28/22/ts	27/21/su	27/21/cl
Bermuda	16/10/sh	18/11/pc	22/14/cl	Puerto Vallarta	29/16/su	28/17/su	29/13/pc
Cancun	27/19/su	28/18/su	28/21/dz	St Thomas	27/22/pc	27/20/su	27/21/pc
Curacao	31/26/ts	31/24/pc	28/22/sh	St Maarten	28/22/ts	27/21/su	26/22/pc
Freeport	21/14/sh	24/11/pc	26/20/su	San Jose, CR	27/19/ts	28/18/ts	27/19/ts
Georgetown	31/26/pc	30/25/pc	30/23/ts	San Juan	28/23/su	27/21/su	26/23/cl
Havana	23/16/su	26/18/su	27/18/su	San Salvador	30/19/su	31/19/su	32/21/su
Key West	20/13/su	24/18/su	26/21/pc	Santo Domingo	27/21/ts	27/21/su	27/21/su
Kingston	27/21/pc	27/21/su	29/27/pc	Trinidad	30/25/pc	31/26/pc	31/26/dz

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Bancroft	2/1/cl	2/-8/sh	3/-1/sh	4/-2/sh	1/-9/sh	-1/-9/pc	-1/-3/pc	
Barrie	3/1/cl	3/-7/sh	5/0/sh	5/-1/sh	1/-9/sh	1/-9/su	1/-2/pc	
Dorset	2/1/cl	2/-8/sh	3/-1/sh	3/-2/sh	1/-10/sh	-1/-10/su	-1/-3/pc	
Haliburton	2/1/cl	2/-7/sh	3/-1/sh	4/-2/sh	1/-10/sh	-1/-10/su	-1/-3/pc	
Huntsville	2/1/cl	2/-8/sh	3/-1/sh	3/-2/sh	1/-10/sh	-1/-10/su	-1/-3/pc	
Kingston	4/2/cl	4/-6/sh	6/1/sh	6/1/sh	2/-7/sh	1/-7/pc	2/-1/pc	
Lindsay	2/1/cl	3/-7/sh	4/0/sh	5/-1/sh	1/-9/sh	0/-9/su	1/-2/pc	
Minden	2/1/cl	2/-7/sh	3/-1/sh	4/-2/sh	1/-10/sh	-1/-10/su	-1/-3/pc	
Oshawa	4/2/cl	4/-6/sh	6/1/sh	6/1/sh	2/-6/sh	1/-8/su	2/-1/pc	
Ottawa	0/-3/pc	1/-6/su	3/-2/sf	0/-6/pc	-1/-10/pc	-4/-12/cl	-2/-7/su	
Toronto	4/2/cl	4/-4/sh	6/2/sh	6/1/sh	2/-5/sh	2/-7/su	2/1/pc	

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Friday HI/Lo/Otk	Saturday HI/Lo/Otk	City	Today HI/Lo/Otk	Monday HI/Lo/Otk	Tuesday HI/Lo/Otk	Wednesday HI/Lo/Otk
Calgary	-3/-14/su	-2/-9/pc	1/-11/su	-5/-12/sf	-9/-15/su	-12/-18/sf	-10/-19/pc	
Edmonton	-10/-21/su	-10/-20/pc	-3/-15/su	-7/-13/su	-11/-14/su	-12/-21/pc	-13/-23/pc	
Fredericton	-7/-14/pc	-2/-8/su	5/-5/su	1/-7/sf	-2/-11/su	-4/-11/su	-4/-11/su	
Halifax	-8/-16/pc	1/-6/pc	3/-3/su	-2/-2/cl	-2/-3/sf	-2/-4/su	-1/-4/su	
Montreal	-4/-11/su	0/-6/su	3/-3/sf	-1/-7/pc	-1/-9/pc	-4/-11/cl	-4/-9/pc	
Regina	-2/-11/su	-9/-18/pc	-2/-16/sf	-4/-13/sf	-9/-17/sf	-9/-17/sf	-10/-19/cl	
St. John's	-7/-13/su	-6/-12/pc	-2/-3/su	1/-2/mx	1/0/cl	1/-2/su	0/-3/pc	
Saskatoon	-4/-14/su	-11/-19/pc	-2/-19/sf	-3/-4/su	-10/-11/su	-10/-19/sf	-11/-20/cl	
Vancouver	7/1/pc	7/0/pc	7/2/mx	7/1/su	6/0/su	7/-1/su	7/0/su	
Whitehorse	-6/-11/sf	-8/-15/su	-17/-18/sf	-16/-31/su	-11/-23/su	-12/-21/pc	-11/-19/cl	
Winnipeg	1/-10/mx	-8/-19/sf	-6/-15/sf	-5/-13/su	-5/-14/sf	-5/-16/su	-8/-21/sf	

AREA ALMANAC

Last seven days	High	Low	Prec.
Monday 3/2	-11°C	-20°C	0.0 mm
Sunday 3/1	-6°C	-23°C	0.0 mm
Saturday 2/28	-7°C	-23°C	0.0 mm
Friday 2/27	-6°C	-17°C	12.4 mm
Thursday 2/26	2°C	-1°C	3.6 mm
Wednesday 2/25	2°C	-12°C	0.3 mm
Tuesday 2/24	-4°C	-23°C	0.0 mm

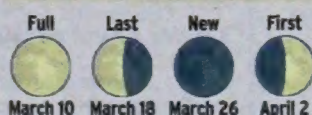
Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport
www.stanhopeairport.com



Forecasts, graphs and data provided by Weather Central, Inc., Madison, Wis. © 2009

SUN & MOON

Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set
Thu. 6:45 a.m./6:07 p.m.	11:36 a.m./3:14 a.m.
Fri. 6:43 a.m./6:09 p.m.	12:51 p.m./4:05 a.m.
Sat. 6:41 a.m./6:10 p.m.	2:11 p.m./4:46 a.m.
Sun. 7:39 a.m./7:11 p.m.	4:32 p.m./6:18 a.m.
Mon. 7:37 a.m./7:13 p.m.	5:51 p.m./6:44 a.m.
Tues. 7:35 a.m./7:14 p.m.	7:07 p.m./7:06 a.m.
Wed. 7:34 a.m./7:15 p.m.	8:21 p.m./7:28 a.m.



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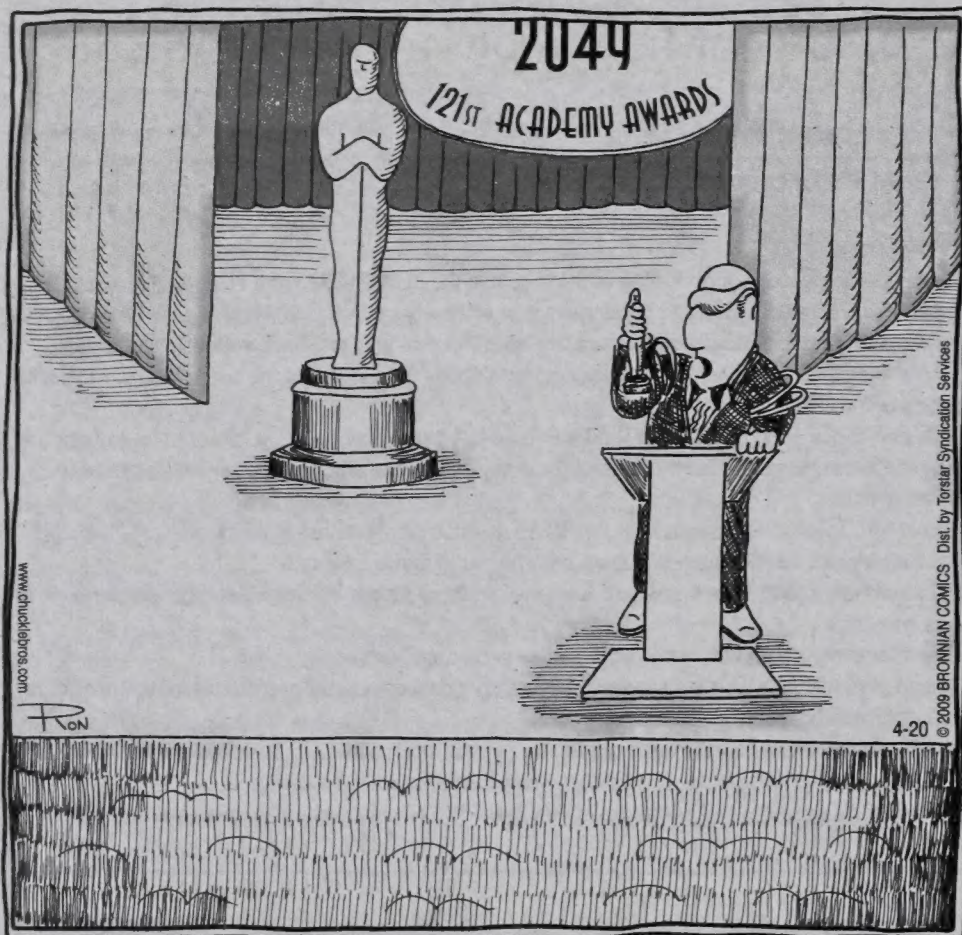
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“... and the award goes to ...
Sylvester Stallone in Rocky XVII.”

Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

Reply to Karl Braeker Letter to the Editor in the County Voice,
published February 19th, 2009

I am pleased to have this opportunity to address the concerns raised by Karl Braeker of Norland with regard to the lab testing services at the Minden hospital.

As readers will know there are wait times for a wide variety of health care services ranging from emergency rooms to mri's which aren't even available in our riding for reasons best known to the government.

In most cases, these wait times simply arise out of a failure to provide the people and equipment necessary to handle what is a consistent and predictable number of patients. Its not really much different a problem than a Tim Horton's would have if it knew it had 100 customers per hour but only hired staff for 50.

There are a variety of things which could be done to help with this, most of them just involving common sense. We have to educate people how to use (and how not to use) our emergency rooms. We need more doctors and nurse practitioners so people don't have to go to the emergency. We need to build more long term care so our seniors who need it won't have to be in hospital beds for months at a time.

In the case of the lab, we need to have an agreement from the operator that there are certain reasonable standards which must be achieved as part of their contract. A two and a half hour wait for a routine blood test can't be a reasonable standard. Whatever the standard is, it is then up to the operator to staff in such a way as to meet it and to be held accountable.

We need that same operator to work with patients to establish preferred times for certain kinds of tests without long waits and inform the patients about those hours. They must be sensitive to the health realities of those patients such as the medication schedule of Mr. Braeker's wife.

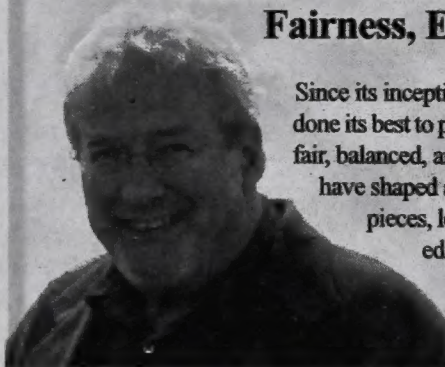
I'm sure the publication of Mr Braeker's letter will help get some better results. I am prepared to work with him if I am elected to make sure these issues are addressed.

John Tory
PC Candidate
Haliburton Kawartha Lakes Brock ■

Editorial VIEWPOINT

by Stephen Patrick

Fairness, Ethics, and Advertisers



Since its inception on January 31st of last year, the County Voice has done its best to provide our readers, all across Haliburton County, with fair, balanced, and accurate reporting and reportage on the events that have shaped and continue to shape our lives. We also print opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and of course my own independent editorial viewpoint (which is not, by definition, an official position of the County Voice itself).

Newspapers, no matter how hard they strive to put forward the facts of a story in a clear manner, are always vulnerable to accusations of bias: some stories simply aren't, to use the cliché, black and white. Those who hold positions of power, in politics, business, or labour regularly use every means at their disposal to slant a story in a particular way. As well, special interest groups have become particularly adept at massaging reporters and editors to bend stories their way. Public relations "spin doctors" pressure editors daily with "news" releases, background papers, scientific studies, and so on, all designed to make one point of view resemble some objective truth.

Anyone with any serious experience in journalism knows that the perfectly 'objective' story doesn't exist. While we strive constantly for fairness in each story we publish, we also know that it's the entire body of our work that we will be judged on. Last week, for example, a printing glitch managed to drop the name of one of this week's by-election candidates that we were citing as credible, honourable candidates. Oops! But the candidate recognized that our overall coverage had been strictly fair, and took no offence.

The proposed Watercolours development, and the organized opposition to it, has had a polarizing effect on the community. We've reported in detail what the nay-sayers have had to say. We've also done a number of articles and editorials that have pointed out what a benefit to the community the development could be. We have the responsibility to report both sides of the issues, without slanting our coverage in favour of anyone: but sometimes, one side is more vocal, more organized, or simply more accessible, than the other, which can lead occasionally to an appearance of bias. For example, our deadlines forced us to report only the first day of the OMB hearings this week, which were primarily devoted to one side. Next week the full hearing will be covered, of course.

Our coverage of both sides of this issue has certainly angered many in the community. This writer was just today given an earful by a local businessman to the effect that our duty as a newspaper (and a business) was to promote development, not to report on the dissent. "We should all be in this together, we're all in the same boat," was the comment. And indeed much of the local media appears to be happy to glide along in the middle of that comfortable boat.

But reporting just the good side of things is the job of the Communicator - our good news feature magazine. The role of a newspaper is to cover all sides of a story: to present the facts and let the public decide, based on the information we can gather.

My businessman friend also not so subtly threatened that unless the Voice jumped in the happy boat, there would be consequences, for which read advertising dollars. We believe, however, that the majority of our advertisers and our readers understand what we're trying to do, and continue to support us.

As our reporter Liz Danielsen reports on Page One of this issue, the Watercolours development has certainly created controversy, along with some very bad feeling. As we pointed out on this page last summer, "We do need more support-oriented and maintenance-free housing for seniors ... but nevertheless large developments should be subject to public scrutiny."

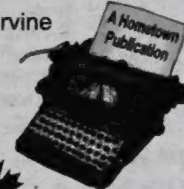
The Voice will continue to cover this developing story to the best of our ability, and as always welcome any reader's view on how well we're doing. ■

Publisher's Comments: Community Responsibility As quoted from the Canadian Newspaper Association...

"The newspaper has responsibilities to its readers, its employees and its advertisers. However, the operation of a newspaper is a public trust and its overriding responsibility is to the society it serves. The newspaper plays many roles: a watchdog against evil and wrongdoing, an advocate for good works and noble deeds, and an opinion leader for its community. The newspaper should strive to paint a representative picture of its diverse communities, to encourage the expression of disparate views and to be accessible and accountable to the readers it serves, whether rich or poor, weak or powerful, minority or majority. When published material attacks an individual or group, those affected should be given an opportunity to reply." ■

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Don't Forget

Turn your clocks forward one
hour this Sunday, March 8th,
2009

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More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

Re: Letter From Darlene Buckingham, February 26th,

Please don't despair. There are actually councils who listen to their taxpayers in Highlands of Haliburton. It's simple that since our Liberal government under Premier McGinty introduced the FOUR year term into municipal politics that it permits our councils to pursue their pet projects without being accountable to their taxpayers. You correctly point to the situation here in Stanhope, where, in spite of the obvious opposition of the taxpayers their pet project (the money pit called Stanhope Airport, that is) is forging ahead. I'm reminded of an old navy saying: "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead".

Unfortunately the taxpayers of what is now Algonquin Highlands are going to be paying the price for this, what one columnist dubs a pipe dream, in higher taxes well into the future. I have been a taxpayer here for over fifty-five years and in my opinion our present council is the least democratic of all the councils we've elected.

Art Wall
Maple Lake ■

Dear Editor:

"We cannot understand why you would not allow elective deliveries..."

We would like to strongly object to plans to close the only obstetric bed in our local hospital - Haliburton Hospital. In our opinion this is NOT best practice and would necessitate delivery at district level rather than local.

Talk about a step backward in health care - perhaps those involved in this proposal have not considered the drive of at least 1 1/2 hours minimum in any direction on icy winter roads in below zero weather - to be placed in the hands of a strange doctor to experience the perfectly normal feat of delivering a baby. Those last few hours are not a lot of fun - believe me - and this young woman should be in the friendly and familiar confines of her closest hospital with her doctor or midwife and family close by. Not tearing down the highway with a frightened husband at the wheel.

We can not understand why you would not allow elective deliveries, which have been going on safely and happily for several years. The doctor involved finds this part of his practice a pleasure, and a nice change from day to day practice in an aging community. He would be asked to give up elective deliveries - but - be expected to give up his spare time to do emergency deliveries (those babies don't always wait the extra 2 hours) He is also a long standing doctor in this community that NONE of us want to lose.

Please give this part of your plan another close look and leave our labour room alone.

A Taxpayer & Contributor to HHHS - (also long past the child bearing age) - we remain -
Joan & Don Cameron
142 Sunnyside St.
Haliburton, Ontario ■

In a case like this the people (remember the people?) receive a facility they neither need nor want, even it was free.

Dear Editor:

In the middle of February, generally a time when Canadians need a bit of light, there was some good news amidst all the grumbling; communities across the country heard that they would receive funding for all kinds of infrastructure projects. The vast majority of these announcements were likely very welcome. Municipalities and their residents got something they wanted and needed at a cost they probably felt was, if not free, at least reasonable.

Some got recreation facilities that will increase their enjoyment of life. Others, like Minden Hills, got assistance for things that they may not have wanted in the same way that we all want to win the lottery, but which most would agree is a project that will improve the community's infrastructure.

In brief, it could be said that these communities had (at a price) something done for them. That is what is supposed to happen when things go right with a huge government program like Building Canada. Local governments, after a transparent review and open consultation with their residents, agree on a project. Once the province and federal government accept that the project is in the best interests of the community and approves the funding, the project can proceed.

When things go wrong with the programs, as we all have seen, things are a bit different. Local government will get an idea, good or bad, avoid discussing it with the people who elected them, and then take their idea to the people from Building Canada, who are under political pressure to shovel money out the door. Together they ignore their own guidelines and the principle of transparency and somehow this same project moves forward.

In a case like this the people (remember the people?) receive a facility they neither need nor want, even it was free. When things happen like this, these people have had something done to them.

It's pretty clear, when we read the words above we are looking at two very different things, two different processes with two different outcomes. One we would probably agree is a good thing, while the other could be considered bad, even though both of these things have actually happened as part of the same program.

It makes you consider the difference between aiding and abetting. While both words mean almost the same thing, aiding is considered to be helping. Abetting is aiding someone to do something negative, like helping someone escape from jail.

As these words might be applied to the Building Canada situation, the funding aided Dysart et al in their efforts to provide an improved/safe bridge for their ratepayers. It is my position that Building Canada abetted Algonquin Highlands in its efforts to impose an expanded runway on its ratepayers.

We could discuss the differences between "for" and "on" or "provide" and "impose" in this example, but I'm sure that we all get the point. So why, during the long, sorry and expensive saga of the airport expansion project, don't they?

Three of the five Council members seem to have decided long ago that they would do things to and impose things on the people of their township, no matter what those people said. And the Building Canada Fund came along to aid and abet them in a plan they could not have carried out on their own. I'm sure they understand the difference. The problem is that they simply don't care.

Why would these three people continue to work so hard and spend so much for something almost nobody wants? It's not just hard to understand, it isn't even good politics.

They have been asked this question directly and have always responded with "justifications" that have been repeatedly proved to be unsupported, mistaken or simply wrong. The question itself never truly gets answered.

They don't care that their project will put a family with small children directly under the approach slope of their new runway with aircraft flying fifty feet over the roof of a house that they will probably never be able to sell. They do not care that these and other people are under stress, or that they are considering selling; getting out while their properties are still worth anything at all.

How do I know that they don't care? I know because they've had little or no contact with the very people whose lifestyles and properties will be directly affected by the project. Crazy I know, but the township is poised to spend three point eight million dollars of our money and they haven't made contact with those most affected so far.

And what about Council's duty to discuss

their plans openly? Even if they're only contemplating a potentially harmful or contentious project there are actual, written guidelines about "stake-holder participation".

From the municipal level (Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Guide, Municipal Engineers Association of Ontario) through to Provincial and Federal regulations, the most important common thread is, "Consultation with affected parties early in and throughout the process, such that the planning process is a co-operative venture."

"Stake-holder participation" doesn't mean inviting people to listen to experts and question them about technical jargon, and it does not mean allowing people to present letters to Council but then decline to answer any questions. It means, quite specifically, that the public must be involved in deciding if there is, in fact, a problem, and how it might be best to deal with it.

Considering alternatives does not mean "which of these two new runways would you prefer?" Alternatives must include a decision not to take action. A lot of people have been following this for a long time, and I think we would have noticed anything like that being offered and it hasn't.

Then there is the matter of numbers. One would hope, when dealing with our money, that Council would be good with numbers. When a full audience sat, hoping that finally common sense would triumph and listening quietly to Council deciding whether to apply for funding for a project that we in the audience kept telling them we didn't want, we heard one member of Council say, and this is a rough but accurate quote, "It has to be built and, after all, this is free money." What?

Estimates from 2007 put the number of Canadian taxpayers at about 22 million; a nice, round number for easy math. So, one third of the 3.78 million dollar project would work out to be less than 8 cents each. Almost cheap enough to be called free.

Then, another third divided among approximately 5 million taxpayers in Ontario would mean another 26 cents for a total of 34 cents or so per Ontarian. Still pretty inexpensive, no doubt about that.

Finally, the last third divided among maybe 2000 or so ratepayers in Algonquin Highlands makes, \$630.34 each for the up-front cash, and then there are the interest costs. The township has projected in one of their scenarios that interest charges could be equal to or greater than the principle, so let's just use \$1,250 per ratepayer. To be safe, I've used really conservative numbers, because it has been pointed out to me by some people that I am not an accountant.

There are some folks who would say that this still doesn't sound like too much money for a great big airport. Maybe they'd be right, too. One thing it isn't, though, is free.

Then, on top of this, there are a bunch more parts of this plan that come later, that won't have the generous help of our fellow taxpayers across the land and could bring the estimated total closer to six million dollars. Add all this to the mix for something we don't want or need and you can see how some of us might not see it as a bargain.

During the same meeting, Council was treated to a Financial Information Report that stated confidently that borrowing and spending \$1.2 million would actually be cheaper than not building the runway at all. Now, does that sound right to you? Of course it doesn't: It sounds just like the sort of borrowing-to-invest strategy that has brought the world to the financial situation we are desperately trying to spend our way out of, doesn't it?

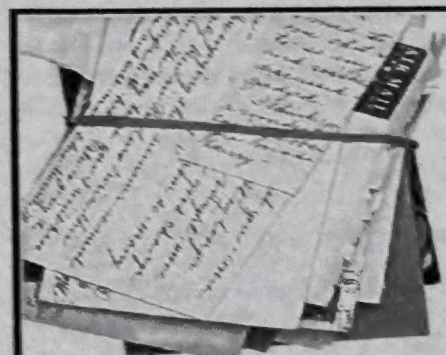
Are they good with numbers? I suppose that would depend on what exactly you mean by good.

When those of us who are opposed to this expansion get together to discuss the project we always end up asking same question: "What the (place you favourite four letters here) can they be thinking?"

Then there is the talk about economic development that will be attracted to the airport if it just has a long enough runway. I will freely admit that when the Reeve asked whether any of us present could say that this would not happen, I had to say (to myself, because I was in Council chambers) no: I could not guarantee that no businesses would arrive and thrive.

I am a fellow who likes to look at all sides as fairly as I can, but if I invited you to think along with me, I'm sure we would find ourselves questioning the viability of any substantial amount of development at a small airport located in a remote location likely much too far away to be really convenient for a successful business. But that is a topic for another day.

Thoughts by Andy Muirhead
West Guilford ■



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LHIN Unaware of new Midwifery Service

A new "Clinical Services Plan" was presented last week to the Board of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) by Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) Chair Foster Loucks, assisted by Dr. Rob Drury, Chief of Staff at Lindsay's Ross Memorial Hospital. Its most controversial recommendation was that the HHHS "discontinue elective obstetrical services" and "ensure that their patients will have appropriate emergency room care while awaiting transfer."

In short, the recommendation means that women in labour must arrange to have their babies delivered in a larger centre, preferably in either Peterborough or Lindsay (which are also in the same LHIN as the HHHS). In presenting the recommendation, Dr. Drury cited the low number of births recorded in Haliburton last year ("the critical mass") means that there couldn't be adequate nursing, medical, equipment and infrastructure "to support provincial standards". Oddly, just a few months ago the Ministry of Health provided funding for Rebecca Weeks-Toth to open the Midwifery Services of Haliburton-Bancroft: according

Haliburton Babies: HHHS Fights to Retain Obstetrics Bed

By Stephen Patrick, Editor, (with files from Mark Arike)

to the LHIN executives, they were unaware of this development when they made their recommendation that the HHHS cease to deliver babies.

Even more interesting is that a plan was already afoot for Weeks-Toth to start a shared practice with Dr. Norm Bottum, who's been the only Haliburton doctor doing deliveries for the past few years. "If this bed closes, all women will have to travel to Peterborough, Lindsay, or Orillia to have their babies. This includes women who have their babies within an hour of the start of labour."

This is the scary issue," Weeks-Toth told the Voice this week. "The fact that on average only between 8 and 12 babies are born here each year simply means that many women have been forced to have their babies elsewhere because Dr. Bottum can only accommodate so many."

"In a shared practice like the one we're proposing between Dr. Bottum and myself, one person would cover for the other if they are off-call. We'd be establishing a sustainable obstetrical service in this community."

HHHS President Paul Rosebush told the Voice that "we're exploring a new model of blended care utilizing both Midwifery Services and Dr. Bottum that we believe can satisfy the LHIN's concerns and keep the service available in Haliburton. We're encouraging public input on this issue, and invite all interested parties to come public meetings we will be holding next week."

During the Board Meeting, Haliburton's Dr. Steve Ferracuti, Chief of Staff at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre, pointed out that it didn't exactly make sense to cease obstetrical services, but then upgrade emergency services to cope with women about to give birth. He also rejected the notion that the low number of births automatically meant that physician and nurse training had to suffer.

Public meetings will take place on Monday, March 9th, at 7:00 PM in the Haliburton Hospital Board Room, and on Wednesday, March 11th, at 7:00 PM in the Minden Hospital Board Room (please enter from McPherson Street).■



Minden Budget Cont'd...

"It's not 12 ½ percent. I'll argue with anybody, all the way to Toronto and back that it isn't. It is a 2 ½ percent increase."

Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

... from pg. 1

other municipalities to lower their rates.

He said, "It's not 12 ½ percent. I'll argue with anybody, all the way to Toronto and back that it isn't. It is a 2 ½ percent increase."

(In 2008 revenue gained from taxation reported in the Minden Hills budget package distributed on January 16th was \$4,473,254.93. In 2009 revenue from taxation established by the recently passed by-law to adopt estimates of expenditures and revenues will be \$5,029,537. When you do the math, the difference of \$556,282.10 represents a 12.4 percent increase.)

McMahon spoke about increased policing costs, increases in the municipality's benefit plan and a three percent increase in the collective agreement, which he said could have gone as high as six or seven percent. He also referred to a 15 percent increase in hydro costs. According to McMahon the list of unanticipated costs could go on and on. He said, "I have a whole list of them and will gladly sit down with anyone (to explain them)."

McMahon said, "I have received e-mails questioning my credibility, my management skills and my integrity and you know what? I don't like it! It's going to stop and it's going to stop here and now."

He said, "This Council is only as strong as we are united. If we are going to be divided, nothing is going to get accomplished."

McMahon then said, "What's discussed in these Council Chamber must remain in these Council Chambers." At this point, McMahon must have been referring to discussions held in camera, as all other discussions should remain a matter of public record.

McMahon said that he had read e-mails from people who had never attended a Council meeting, but seemed to know all about Council's inner workings. He said, "Every day I'm getting e-mails telling me how to trim the budget. Something is wrong here and someone is feeding people information." He said that one individual couldn't have been privy to the information they had, as they had never been to the office asking questions.

He then said, "You know what? Personally, I think that is the lowest form of attacking individual members of your Council and staff. We all have to work together for the betterment of this Council. At the very first I said in my inaugural speech that we're like one big family. We're not going to get along, and we're not going to agree on all issues, but you know what, get over it. Learn to adjust and move forward or nothing is going to get done."

Calling the Council a family is an interesting analogy, but perhaps idealistic as the public have straightforward expectations that they will simply be a group of elected officials who will respond to taxpayers concerns and manage their tax dollars competently.

McMahon then said that was all the comments he had to make. He concluded his remarks by saying that he hoped the Council could turn things around. He said, "There's no reason why we can't. We have some very competent people and some very competent staff. And I want to see this township shine."

What is unfortunate is that McMahon was ill and could not take part in the final budget discussion. Had he been present he just might have added another voice of reason, asking for one more review of the budget once they became aware of the deficit. ■



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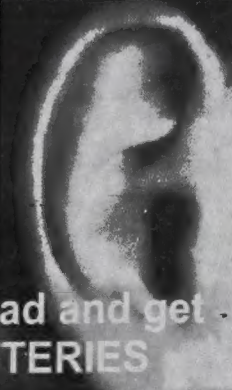
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Dysart Budget Cont'd...

There were some widely varying approaches to budgeting in the room with some members trying to keep costs down as much as possible, and others who felt that the budget should be increased to reflect ever increasing costs.

... from pg. 1

Liz Danielsen
Staff Reporter

The deficit from last year was reported by McKelvey in February as being a bit of a moving target but estimated to be \$100,000. By this week, that figure was had been reduced to \$76,158. The deficit may change slightly with the completion of the municipal audit later this month.

McKelvey said, "Because there has been a significant increase in assessments, we were able to reduce our portion of the overall tax rate by 8.1 percent. (The County's portion has been reduced by 9.5 percent and the education portion has been reduced by 4.5 percent.)

What does this mean for residential properties? The total tax rate for residential properties is decreasing for Dysart by 7.16 percent resulting in a rate of .654179 percent for all residential properties.

This is how things will change between 2008 and 2009. Last year the tax rate for residential properties was .704646 percent. On a home assessed at \$200,000 the taxes would have been \$1,409.29. On that same home this year the assessment would have increased (using the average increase) by 9.5 percent making the new assessment \$219,000. At the 2009 tax rate of .654179 percent, the taxes would increase to \$1,432.65, a difference of \$23.36, which indicates that the increases homeowners can anticipate will be much less than the picture being painted when the new assessments first came out.

Dysart et al residents whose assessment increased less than the average of 9.5 percent will actually see a decrease in their taxes this year, and that's good news no matter how you look at it.

There were some widely varying approaches to budgeting in the room with some members trying to keep costs down as much as possible, and others who felt that the budget should be increased to reflect ever increasing costs. Councillor Steve Pogue questioned exactly what Council was trying to achieve. (At the end of the meeting Pogue voted in favour of the budget, but said that he felt Council had not really accomplished much.)

He said, "We looking at a 1.9 percent increase in our expenses, when the cost of living is much higher. Many of the increases exceed 3 percent (staffing) and we shouldn't be keeping costs the same as last year."

Reeve Murray Fearrey responded that there is was an increase in revenue from permits and that the municipality was also using all of the federal gas tax. He said, "There's an additional \$250,000 in the budget which should be enough in these times."

Fearrey said, "I think we ended up where we hoped we would be. We have approved a budget that will result in a reduction to the total tax rate for the average resident."

"There is no doubt that there was a desire on Council's part to do more in some areas, but this is certainly not the time to put more pressure on people in business or on lower incomes," said Fearrey.

Once again, one of the most difficult areas for Council to consider was that portion of the budget dealing with grants and donations. It is discretionary spending which makes the decision making a much greater challenge. Despite having completed a detailed review of this part of the budget in February (which included considerable wrangling amongst Council members) Council went over it once more, acknowledging the importance that these funds have on small groups and organizations and the difficulty reductions could cause. The bottom line for grants and donations remained the same as agreed last month at a total of \$228,550.

Considerable discussion took place about fund raising for the new library for landscaping, furnishings and equipment. Council agreed that a committee should be struck to head up a number of fund raising initiatives. Fearrey commented that there will likely be some Trillium Foundation funding through a joint application by the County, but that would only go part way towards the estimated \$250,000 to \$300,000 dollars required.

Councillor Janis Parker asked for small scale floor plans that could be distributed and asked Council to consider naming opportunities for anyone wishing to make large donations. She said that naming opportunities at the Rails End Gallery were working very well for things like benches, trees and even the perennial gardens.

Naming opportunities could be available for anything from entire rooms, to pieces of furniture, but the details of this will be determined by the Committee once it is established. "We need to set a target amount to raise and see who is serious about this," said Fearrey. Council agreed to run an ad seeking committee members.

One of the challenges later in the year will be the overall operating costs for the new library and how they will impact the budget. McKelvey said that the impact would only be felt for a small portion of the year, so it should not be too significant.

Fearrey also advised Council that there will be another round of major infrastructure project funding available during the year. He said, "We may have to borrow some money and roll repayment over a number of years. We can't increase the levy for our third share of a project cost."

Council also reviewed their schedule of fees and charges. Despite recommendations for increases in ice rentals, Council agreed they didn't want to impact families that are already struggling with added costs for their kids to play hockey. The exception to this was a nominal increase in ice rental fees for adult tournaments.

The final challenge was Council's decision on whether or not to purchase computers and software for the Council chambers. This purchase would facilitate the new electronic agenda program that will be adopted over the next several months. However, it was apparent that making the decision wasn't all about money, but a matter of what each member was comfortable with.

Here too there were varying opinions, with some members of Council wanting to stay with their paper agendas, some members supplying their own laptops and several members of Council insisting that they should not have to spend personal money to carry on the business of Council. Some concern was raised about the perception by the public that the laptops could be used for personal purposes.

At this time all members of Council will be accommodated. Paper agendas will be available for those who request them and for those members needing computers, replacement equipment from within the municipality will be set up to reduce costs as much as possible. ■

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Ways of Getting Producers Acquainted with Consumers Focused On at Meeting

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

Local food producers are getting serious about looking at ways of making food that is produced in the area more readily available to permanent residents and visitors.

During a recent local food initiative meeting that was held at Sir Sandford Fleming College in Haliburton; farmers, artists, representatives of the local health unit, MPP Green Party candidate Mike Schreiner and others came together to discuss the viability of having a farmers market in Haliburton this summer. The group of about 50 participants had many ideas on their minds, but it all came down to one simple question: "how do we move forward?"

Bob Smith, an advocate for locally grown food, said that Haliburton County has the potential to succeed in marketing this food to locals and outsiders.

"We have the potential to reach not just the people who live here, but 60,000 cottagers when it gets busy," said Smith, who added that he's willing to help finding ways of building connections with consumers and producers in the area.

Smith first attended a food forum last fall that was hosted by the Haliburton Highlands Local Food Coalition (HHLFC), a sub-committee of Environment Haliburton. At that meeting, the group heard a talk from Andrew McCann, a renowned "local food expert", who shed light on ways of building a community that could thrive off local food distribution.

While Smith spoke, he mentioned a local farmers market that used to operate out of Minden.

"From what I gather, it became more of a flea market...I don't know what happened to it," he said.

Jean Tyler, of Waverly Brook Farm in Haliburton, answered by saying that this particular market lacked producers, resulting in its downfall.

After hearing this Smith said, "I'm willing to do some work in terms of organizing whatever connection needs to be made between the consumer and producer, but not if there aren't enough producers who are willing to participate."

Tracy Green, President of the Highlands East Cultural Association and one of the organizers of the Tory Hill Market, said that it took time and a lot of effort to get their market off the ground.

"At the start, we didn't receive one call from a producer," said Green. "We actually had to go door-to-door and pester people to come to our event."

Green added that there aren't many local food producers in the area, and those we do have are at their limit.

"There aren't a lot of them up here and the ones that we do have, to my understanding, have reached their capacity," she said.

One participant at the meeting suggested that a focus should be placed on receiving a commitment from the consumer instead of

concentrating on the inadequate number of producers.

"The route that you should take it to try to get a commitment from the consumer (so that they pay up front)," he said. The man alluded to a film that the group watched portions of called "The Real Dirt On Farmer John". In the movie, the true story of a farmer who transformed his farm into a thriving business that now provides fresh organic produce to over 1,200 shareholder families is told.

"You can talk about the producers all you want," the man added. "But you should look at how to get the consumers."

In order to have a successful farmers market, one woman pointed out that it must include several key components.

"You must have a regular presence there and there has to be continuity," she said. "Through my experiences, I've noticed that things come in occasionally. One week there might be a lot of beans and beets, but the following week and the week after, there might be very little."

The woman suggested that the HHLFC follow in the footsteps of the Garlic Festival that was held last summer and drew out a crowd of hundreds.

"I suggest that we hold a handful of big events instead of doing something week after week that fizzles out," she said.

Tom Green, a local artist and honey producer, stressed the importance of a good location for the farmers market. He said that one of the "hottest places" for consumer traffic would be generated near Kawartha Dairy along Hwy 35.

"You can't pick a better spot than that, besides the docks in Haliburton," said Green.

Maureen Adams, owner of The Great Haliburton Feed Company (located at 175 Industrial Park Rd.) said that she would be willing to have a farmer's market set-up by her storefront.

"I made the offer because I have a good location in the summer," said Adams. "We have tons and tons of tourists because of the pets that we have."

Tracy Green didn't feel that this would be an ideal location by stating that parking would be an issue.

"You have to be prepared to have 40 or 50 cars there," she said.

Julia Canning, a student in the ecotourism program at Sir Sandford Fleming College, suggested the possibility of designating a permanent location in Haliburton that would house and supply the public with locally grown items.

"There are a lot of young people that want to be able to go somewhere to shop without having to plan ahead," said Canning. "If you could have some sort of establishment where people could go that is accessible in the Village, they'd buy things."

Other topics that were brainstormed at the meeting included methods of promoting local food and producers, and ways of ensuring that other local products such as meat are made available to consumers.

At the end of the meeting, the group agreed with a recommendation made by Smith to plan for a large-scale farmer's market event that would be held somewhere in the County in the month of July. ■



5 Charged in OPP Drug Bust in Minden

(Haliburton, ON.)—On the 26th of February 2009, members of the Haliburton OPP Crime Unit with the assistance of the OPP Central East Drug Enforcement Unit executed a Controlled Drugs and Substances Act Search Warrant at a Bobcaygeon Road residence within the Town of Minden. Once inside the residence, Officers located eight adult persons.

Officers seized approximately 1.5 pounds of processed Cannabis Marihuana, \$1,290.00 in Canadian currency and associated drug paraphernalia including digital scales and packaging materials. Further seized was a 1998 Jeep Cherokee motor vehicle.

A secondary Controlled Drugs and Substances Act search warrant was subsequently executed at a Cedar Lane residence within the municipality of Orangeville. At this location, officers of the Central North Drug Enforcement Unit seized a small quantity of Cannabis Marihuana, Psilocybin (Magic Mushrooms) and associated drug paraphernalia.

Charged with Possession of Cannabis Marihuana for the Purposes to Trafficking is Richard Berry (44yrs) of Minden Hills, Ontario, Robert Kent (48yrs) of Minden Hills, Ontario, John Pilger (32yrs) of Minden Hills, Ontario, Allan White (45yrs) of Minden Hills, Ontario and John Gronross (47yrs) of Orangeville, Ontario. All accused persons were released on a Promise to Appear with a court date set for the 1st day of April 2009. Police estimate the value of drugs seized at \$5,000.00

Investigation is continuing. ■

Fatal Snowmobile Accident in Haliburton Forest

(Haliburton, ON.)—Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment were called just before noon today in regards to a serious motor vehicle collision that occurred on a snowmobile trail at the Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve Ltd north of Haliburton.

Members of the Dysart Fire Department and EMS personnel also attended the scene.

The victim was operating a snowmobile along a trail and failed to negotiate a turn. He was ejected off of his machine and struck a tree.

An air ambulance attended the scene which was several kilometres into the Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve Ltd.

The victim Jeffrey Scott Empringham 22 years, of Stouffville Ontario, was pronounced dead at the scene.

A post mortem examination will be conducted at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay on Monday March 2, 2009 to determine the cause of death.

O.P.P. Technical Traffic Collision Investigators are assisting in the investigation. ■

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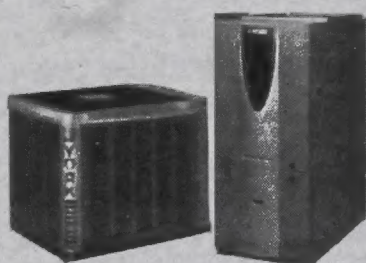
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Minden River Kings Have New Owners

Robinson and Randles Purchase Minden's GMHL Franchise

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

New owners and now a new season. Minden River Kings will be trading golf clubs for titanium blades, but they will be entering the off-season with a new mindset.

The Minden River Kings spent the better part of this season on a wild, wooly rollercoaster ride.

The truest test of any team's seasonal mettle comes when faced with adversity. And the Minden club has faced their fair share of hard times in their inaugural season in the Greater Metro Junior A Hockey League (GMHL).

Props to this team, though. The Kings have had to deal with some early roster shortages, a modicum of distracting dressing room upheaval, a few blockbuster trades that churned less than advantageous results, and the resignation of a coach this season.

Bad news? The Kings fell three straight in the best-of-five north division quarter final to a more experienced Elliot Lake Bobcat club. (See story in this week's sports section)

Good news? They managed to put together enough wins in their rookie GMHL season to finish in fifth spot in the tough Northern Division.

Better news? Well, the Minden River Kings are now locally owned and operated, the result of a deal made last week between the GMHL executive and current Kings coach Brooks Robinson.

Robinson and Texas entrepreneur Derrick Randles partnered up and purchased the team last week said Robinson, who added that he's pretty ecstatic that the team fortunes will now be determined by owners that have sustainable local roots.

Randles is the uncle of backup goaltender and Houston native Robert Randles, and Robinson said that they have been looking into the purchase for a little while, but only recently entered into serious negotiations with the league.

"We've been discussing this for about a month and a half, but we were just waiting for all the pieces to come together," said Robinson.

The team was previously co-owned by GMHL president Bob Russell and Commissioner Ken Girard. Girard and Russell both own interests in other teams in the league and Robinson said that Russell and Girard actually asked him earlier in the season if he had any interest in forming a local ownership group.

"The league is interested in promoting local ownership and so Derrick and I began talking about it," said Robinson.

Robinson said that Randles brings a wealth of sports knowledge to the table. He played college football in the States and he has been very involved in all facets of his nephew Robert's hockey career. Randles has also been involved in sports as an administrator and a coach.

Although Randles is a US citizen, Robinson said that he has been looking to purchase a residence in the area. "They like it here and they've liked it since they first came up last fall," said Robinson.

He said that they have plans for the team, which includes a comprehensive player-oriented system that would incorporate a fitness and dryland training regimen including gym-specific programs.

"We'll be looking at integrating the program with local gyms," said Robinson. In a perfect world he said he would like to mirror a program like the one run by Innisfil Lakers and their coach Shane Hicke. The Lakers are the top team in the GMHL's Southern Division and they bring a solid meld of quickness, discipline and hard work to the mix.

Robinson said that he and Randles bought the River Kings for the league-mandated \$24,500 franchise fee. He declined to

go into the details of the partnership saying only that he and Randles would work closely in all facets of team building and future plans.

With the purchase comes responsibility for all attendant fees and working capital.

"Derrick is planning on living here for part of the year and we will be attending all of the drafts and tournaments looking for players," said Robinson. "He's a sports guy, and he has contacts in the States who will be scouting for us." Robinson said that

Randles is also something of a nutritional guru and added that they figure to make nutrition an integral part of their training regimen next season.

Robinson said that with last Sunday's ouster in the first round of the playoffs, their attention will now be turning to building on the strong phalanx of local talent like Derek Hunter, Matt Eno, Tyler Crego, Tyler Wright and others who have brought a really solid work ethic to the table in the course of the River Kings inaugural GMHL season.

Robinson said that he and Randles would also be working very hard at firming up a number of extra-curricular plans for

the team. Along with the fitness and team-building plans, the River Kings will also be looking into some promotional exhibition contests. Robinson said he would love to get involved in some exhibitions with the National Amputee team and the OPP, two teams that drew a large crowd in Minden during the successful Scotty Morrison Charity Hockey Tournament.

He also said that they would be looking into cementing some solid sponsorship ties with groups in both Haliburton and Minden.

Robinson added that he was impressed with the solid base of support the team nurtured this season.

"I'd really like to thank our fans for coming out and supporting us this season," said Robinson, shortly after losing a hard fought battle to Elliot Lake by a 6-3 margin last Sunday at the SG Nesbitt Arena.

He added that the new owners would certainly be looking at upgrading the fan experience next season and would be looking into ways to increase that burgeoning yet very vocal and supportive fan base.

"We'll be working very hard for next season starting right away," said Robinson. ■



River Kings coach and now owner Brooks Robinson

Wood Stolen from Building Site

On the night of February 26th after 5pm, unknown persons loaded up 35 sheets of plywood from a building site on Garver Rd off Sawyers Lake Rd. When the contractor returned in the morning he found the bands snipped off a 60 sheet bundle of "Alberta Plywood" and 35 sheets gone (a pick up truck load). The wood was worth about \$1000. and it's distinctive as it is stamped in black ink with the words Alberta Plywood on every sheet. If anyone knows anything about this theft, they are encouraged to call the Minden OPP (attn: Cst Val Jarvis) or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS.



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

On March 16, 1802, the United States Military Academy -- the first military school in the United States -- is founded by Congress for the purpose of educating and training young men in the theory and practice of military science. Located at West Point, N.Y., the U.S. Military Academy is often known simply as West Point.

On March 17, 1931, radio star Kate Smith debuts her first program. The show launched performers like Abbott and Costello and introduced songs like Irving Berlin's "God Bless America," which she sang on Armistice Day in 1938.

On March 18, 1925, the worst tornado in U.S. history passes through eastern Missouri, southern Illinois and southern Indiana, killing 695 people, injuring some 13,000 people and causing \$17 million in property damage. Known as the "Tri-State Tornado," the deadly twister spent more than three hours on the ground and traveled at speeds in excess of 70 mph -- unsurpassed in U.S. history.

On March 19, 1971, the Italian American Civil Rights League announces a truce with the producers of "The Godfather." Upset at the portrayal of Italian Americans as gangsters, the League persuaded the producers not to use the words "Mafia" or "Cosa Nostra."

On March 20, 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe's anti-slavery novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," is published. It sells 300,000 copies within three months. While living in Cincinnati, Stowe encountered fugitive slaves and the Underground Railroad. Later, she wrote "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in reaction to recently tightened fugitive slave laws.

On March 21, 1980, President Jimmy Carter informs a group of U.S. athletes that, in response to the December 1979 Soviet incursion into Afghanistan, the United States will boycott the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. It marked the first and only time that the United States has boycotted the Olympics.

On March 22, 1908, Louis L'Amour, the prolific author of scores of bestselling Western novels, is born in Jamestown, N.D. His big break came when a novel he wrote at the age of 46 became the basis for the popular John Wayne movie "Hondo."



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Chef of the Month

Chefs Do Their Best

SIRCH Challenge Continues to Address Crucial Issues

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

It's a difficult challenge that is still yet to be overcome. Numerous local chefs have accepted it. All have been unable to stay within its budget.

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, chef Greg Turner of The Peppermill stepped up to do the best he could in SIRCH's "Chef-of-the-Month" challenge.

Started back in October of last year, the initiative has been designed to raise awareness of the harsh realities local families in poverty face daily. It has also been educating those who are on a fixed budget about ways of stretching their grocery dollars further while maintaining a balanced diet that meets the criteria set out in Canada's Food Guide.

On every third Wednesday of the month, a different local chef has been invited to create a meal plan for a family of four that is inexpensive and healthy. The hardest part for the chefs hasn't been in how to come up with a delicious meal, but rather how to not spend more than \$6.50 in a day, as the challenge asks.

During his live cooking demonstration at Bob & Wendy's Foodland in Haliburton, Chef Turner's comments echoed those of others who have taken on the challenge before him.

"A challenge of \$6.50 isn't feasible," he said. "As soon as I finished up with the breakfast and lunch I was already at \$4 and that was without including any drinks like juice."

Turner's meal plan, which included a pancake and sausage breakfast, a leftover pancake with jam lunch and a penne arrabbiatta dinner, came to a total cost of \$10.52 for a family of four (\$2.63 per person).

"Ultimately, we want to raise awareness about food insecurity and child/familial poverty," says Nancy Brownsberger, Social Marketer for SIRCH. "There are families in our community who only have the \$6.50 amount to spend a day and we are proving that they cannot afford to eat healthfully within that budget."

Gena Robertson, Executive Director of SIRCH, agrees and adds that the Chef program has raised awareness through the local statistics it presents.

"People are surprised about the number of families that are struggling," she said.

Recently, a family guide to "Eating Healthy On a Budget" was released by SIRCH. The booklet was created by university student Deanne Pegler for SIRCH's Healthy Children Program. Inside are examples of what families should include in their everyday meals, ways to stay within a budget, a few recipes and more. The guide will be available for free to those who attend future Chef-of-the-Month challenges.

Since none of the chefs have been able to come up with a plan for \$6.50, SIRCH would like to hear your ideas or suggestions that families could use for saving money while keeping eating healthy in mind. If you have any email them to nbrownsberger@sirch.on.ca, or simply send them to the County Voice at editor@countyvoice.ca. ■



Greg Turner from the Peppermill in Carnarvon

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Greg's Gourmet Penne Arrabbiatta

- 8 Breakfast sausages (you may substitute Italian sausage, Oktoberfest sausage etc.)
- 8 oz mushrooms sliced
- 1/2 bunch green onion sliced
- 1/2 green plus 1/2 yellow or red pepper diced
- 5 tsp vegetable oil
- 700 ml tomato and herb pasta sauce (you may substitute your favorite pasta sauce or your own homemade recipe)
- Tsp hot sauce (optional)
- 2/3 package penne (600 g)

Directions: Bring to a boil 2-3 litres of salted water with 4 tsp vegetable oil. Stir in penne and cook until tender but still firm. Drain and shock with cold water to stop the cooking process. Reserve.

In a large fry pan or wok, sauté mushrooms, diced peppers, and sausage in a teaspoon of vegetable oil. Once the mushrooms and peppers begin to brown, season with salt and pepper and add desired amount of hot sauce. Immediately add pasta sauce and stir occasionally while bringing up to temperature. Add reserved penne noodles and toss over heat until penne is warm, and fully coated with sauce. Finish with chopped green onions sprinkled on top and serve.

Total Cost = \$6.72 (serves four)
Portion cost \$2.63 per serving ■

Tips from Greg

How to save money on groceries

Plan daily meals around a theme, reusing items in new and creative ways for each meal

Take advantage of pasta and rice, adding and subtracting items to create your own nutritious recipes

Look for bulk items: they're usually way more cost effective

Keep an eye on the flyers for specials and sale items every week

Watch for coupons

Look for outlets for local produce and meats, they can be of a higher quality during peak seasons and can be much more cost effective

Buy seasonal fruits and vegetables and preserve whenever you can. For example, you can blanch (half cook) vegetables and freeze them for use at a later date. Pickling and canning are other effective methods of preserving seasonal produce ■

The Fur Flies in Minden Hills

Liz Danielsen

Staff Reporter

"If we ask for information, it should be provided to us. That's cut and dried." (Bill Obee)

The fur has been flying in Minden Hills between Council and management staff and signs of fractured working relationships are starting to show. At their first meeting in February, several members of Council requested additional information before formally authorizing an unbudgeted expense for environmental work required as part of the proposed water tower project. Senior Minden Hills management staff seemed to take serious umbrage to the request.

The funds were being requested to do soil sampling which will complete the environmental assessment work needed prior to the elevated water tower project proceeding. The request for additional information did create a bit of a catch-22 situation in that several members of Council wanted to wait for Building Canada approval before moving forward with the expenditure.

On the other hand, Environmental and Property Operations Manager Bob Romberg and Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Gerry Morrison both voiced concern that the project might not be approved and the funding lost without completion of the environmental assessment. (One of the basic requirements for approval of Building Canada funding is that municipal projects are to be 'project ready'.)

Morrison, visibly frustrated, angrily explained that a public forum about the water tower project had been held in the fall and it was understood that the soil testing would proceed as part of the overall environmental assessment. In response to concerns raised by Councillors Barbara Reid and Bill Obee that the funds were not budgeted, Morrison clarified that the work would be part of the water/wastewater budget, which has not yet been on the table for discussion.

Obee and Reid questioned why only one price had been submitted, and Romberg explained that their consulting engineers (D.M. Wills Associates) had chosen the sub-contractor. Romberg said, "I have a lot of faith in our consultant to choose an appropriate contractor."

Romberg referred to the fact that one of the Council members (referring to Reid) had not been present during budget meetings and added that at no time during the budget discussions had he been advised that the assessment would not be completed. He also said that the project was expected to proceed with or without Building Canada funding.

In response to this Reid inquired whether the Municipality had the funds to proceed without outside funding. When Romberg said they didn't, she said, "That is my concern. The project is unlikely to proceed this year and I'm unwilling to make a commitment to spend this on a gamble." Romberg warned Council that the funding might not be approved without this portion of the environmental assessment. He added that he didn't see a \$13,000 expenditure as a detriment to the Municipality.

In consultation with the Treasurer, Morrison then confirmed that the funds were expected to come out of reserves. At this point, Councillors Rick Ratcliff and Lisa Schell voted to proceed, but Obee and Reid still wanted more information on the bidding process. Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch broke the tie (Reeve Jim McMahon and Councillor Peter Oyler were absent). Obee again informed Romberg that he wanted the additional information to be provided.

At the Council meeting last week, the formal resolution on the matter was put forward, authorizing the expense out of reserves. (By this time Council had received confirmation that the funding for the water tower project had been approved.)

Obee again asked for the list of bidders and prices, saying he would not support the resolution without it. When Reeve McMahon asked for the information, Morrison advised that it had been available in Romberg's office for Council's information for more than a week. He said that Romberg was prepared to share the information if any members of Council wished to meet him in his office.

Once again, Morrison became visibly angry with Council. He advised them that this was the first time that members of Council had requested tender information once part of a project had been sub-contracted by their consulting engineer.

Reid reminded Morrison and Romberg of Council's purchasing policy, suggesting that their consultants should follow it. Obee reminded Morrison that it was Council's right to access the information. He said, "If we ask for information it should be provided to us. That's pretty cut and dried."

McMahon directed Morrison to have Romberg attend the meeting and Council took a breather. When the meeting reconvened, Romberg provided the details requested (it was a sole source

bidding on the work.) He said, "When we retained a consultant, we leave the matter in their hands and don't question their decisions. D.M. Wills' response is self explanatory."

Reid reminded Romberg that the expenditure was not a budgeted item, nor was it part of the original contract. She said, "We have policies that require us to get more than one bid for expenditures over \$10,000. Discussion between Reid and Romberg dissolved into an argument, and Deputy Reeve Murdoch said, "I support this one hundred percent. We have competent staff to take care of this for us and I'm content to proceed."

Obee voiced his disappointment that the information requested had not been readily provided. He said, "I have no problem with the project. I only have a problem with there being no response to our request for clarification."

Reid also took exception to Murdoch's suggestion that she did not trust their department heads. She said it was simply her intent to ensure that the Municipality was following their own purchasing policy.

Reeve McMahon said that he had no problem as long as the project was on budget. He added that D.M. Wills was more than capable of choosing a suitable contractor.

Obee, however, reiterated that the work was not part of the original price. He advised McMahon that while a decision had been made at the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier in the month, it had not been unanimous.

At this point, in an unexpected move and without comment or leave by Council, Romberg stalked out of the room.

By this time, most of the members of Council were visibly frustrated, but in the end they all voted in favour of the work proceeding. ■

ISAAC ASIMOV'S SUPER QUIZ

Take this Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

Subject: LAND ANIMALS
(e.g., Arboreal animals live in _____. Answer: Trees.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. This "cat" is recognized as the fastest land animal.

Answer _____

2. These cats are known for being tailless.

Answer _____

3. These cats are noted for their bright blue eyes.

Answer _____

4. The dromedary and the bactrian are types of _____.

Answer _____

5. The largest living primate.

Answer _____

GRADUATE LEVEL

6. This male of this primate has a colorful face and rump.

Answer _____

7. The Komodo dragon is the largest living _____.

Answer _____

8. In what country are wombats found?

Answer _____

9. Animals with a prehensile tail are able to use it to _____.

Answer _____

10. Gibbons are small _____.

Answer _____

PH.D. LEVEL

11. Ungulate animals have _____.

Answer _____

12. The Capybara is the world's largest living _____.

Answer _____

13. What is the characteristic of oviparous animals?

Answer _____

14. What term designates cud-chewing animals?

Answer _____

15. Herpetology is the study of _____.

Answer _____

ANSWERS: 1. Cheetah. 2. Manx. 3. Siamese. 4. Camels. 5. Gorilla. 6. Mandrill. 7. Lizard. 8. Australia. 9. Grasp or hold objects. 10. Apes. 11. Hooves. 12. Rodent. 13. They lay eggs. 14. Ruminants. 15. Reptiles and amphibians.

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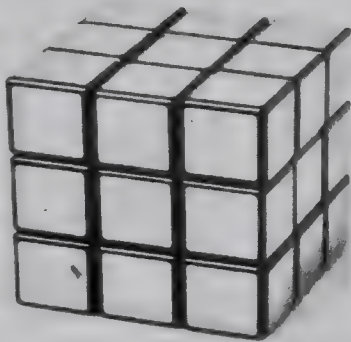
24 to 30 points — congratulations, doctor; 18 to 23 points — honors graduate; 13 to 17 points — you're plenty smart, but no grind; 5 to 12 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 4 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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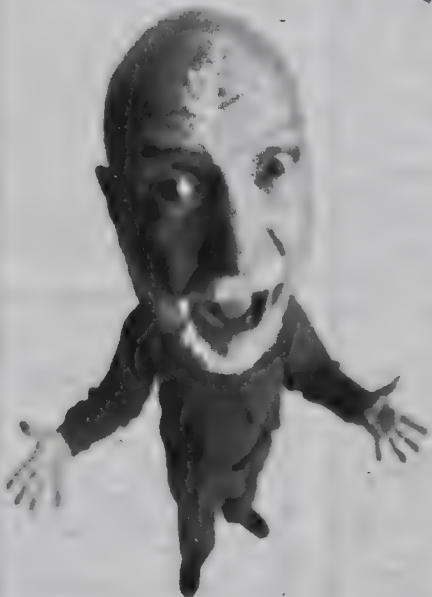
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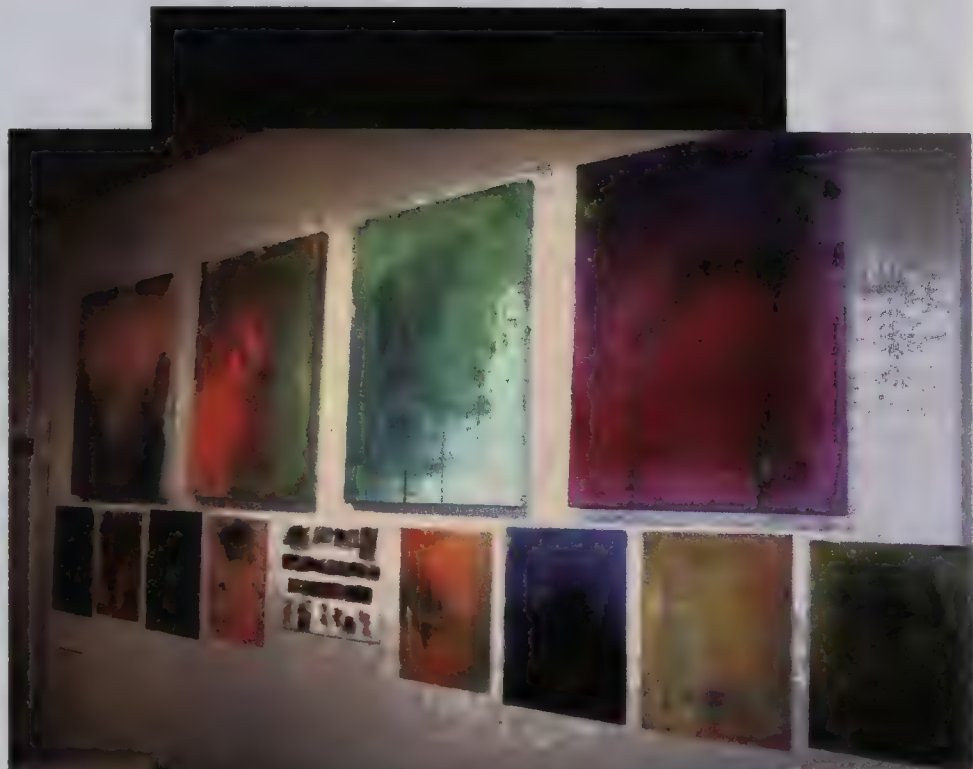
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Befundled!



Chris Stackhouse "I'm a metal working man child"



One Week Only

"Befundled" is an innovative, exciting and edgy exhibition which runs at Haliburton's Rails End Gallery only until this Sunday, March 8th. The exhibition features studio work in progress by 14 students of Fleming College's Visual and Creative Arts Diploma (VCAD) course. VCAD co-ordinator Dar Bolahood is delighted with the verve and bravery that so many of the works show: "This show is a wonderful way for the students to develop creative skill without having to use a lot of technical expertise of materials. It takes a lot of courage and a lot of maturity for students to exhibit work that is experimental, unfinished, and which often uses unfamiliar materials and techniques."

The exhibit highlights the process by which art is created, from the initial concept through the development stages. No finished work will be shown. This is a challenging assignment, but the students have responded with work that is both technically fascinating and artistically bold. For example, Deborah Murphy, in her artist statement, says "When I sculpt, I want a collection of found objects, discards, old wiring, thrown out supplies/tools, even stuff like molds on mushrooms ... I want to touch and process how to magnetize a harmonious state from life's rejects."

Chris Stackhouse says of his plasticine sculptures: "I'm a metal-working man-child, now playing with the tactile manipulation of delicate materials. Normally used to wielding heavy tools against unyielding materials, the dainty nature of foam, string, and plasticine allows me to more direct method of working with my hands." And Suzie Lewis says of her paintings, "My playfulness and willingness to change lets the artwork take me places. I'm exploring ways to express myself through the use of line, movement, and scale."

The Rails End Gallery is open Wednesday to Friday from 11 to 6; Saturday from 11 to 5, and Sunday from 12 to 4. ■

Above: Suzie Lewis "My playfulness and willingness to change lets the artwork take me places" Below: Deborah Murphy: "I want to touch and process"



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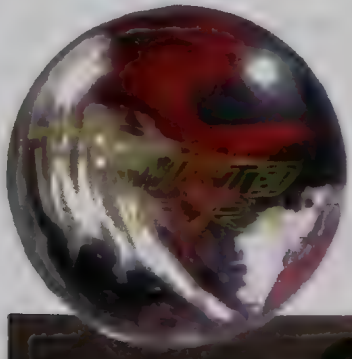
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Bowling for Kids Sake

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter



Eighteen Teams Help Raise Nearly \$10,000 for Local Chapter of Mentoring Organization

The Fast Lane Entertainment Centre in Minden was a full house last Saturday for the 29th annual Bowl for Kids Sake fundraiser.

Eighteen teams laced up their bowling shoes for a day of fun and brought in pledges totalling nearly \$10,000 for programs run by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton. Similar events were also scheduled for Lindsay and Bobcaygeon.

The two core programs that these funds will benefit include the traditional one-to-one mentoring (big brother, big sister and big couple) and In-School

Clockwise from left to bottom: Team Pinestone takes a break to pose for a photo. Bowlers with the Floyd Hall Ltd. Insurance team were ready to compete. A young bowler musers up all his strength and puts his entire body into this roll.

Mentoring, which is directed at children ages 6 - 16.

To add to the fun of bowling and socializing, teams were encouraged to dress up as their favourite athlete or team's attire for this year's "sports" theme.

Of all the three fundraisers being held, prizes will be awarded to the three people who brought in the most amount of money in pledges overall. These prizes include a vehicle glass window tint, a grocery shopping spree and a DVD camcorder.

Teams that were voted best dressed in their time slot received a pizza from Godfather's Pizza in Minden and the best dressed players were given a Big Brother Big Sister T-shirt.

In addition, Big Brothers Big Sisters merchandise including carry bags, T-shirts and sweat-shirts were distributed to those who raised \$100 or more. Participants were also eligible to win free draw prizes courtesy of Sears in Minden.

The top pledges from individuals at the event in Minden came from Sheila Shaw (\$1,000), Bonnie Roe (\$472) and Vick Ballik (\$431).

Lane sponsors included Ridgewood Ford and the Minden Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters are volunteers from the community who share a little time out of their day with a young person. There are 140 Brothers/Big Sister agencies in over 1,000 communities across Canada that provide direct service to over 26,000 children by matching them to adult volunteers in quality mentoring relationships.

Jim DeFlorio, Executive Director of the Kawartha Lakes - Haliburton chapter, says that finding volunteers is often the biggest challenge that the organization faces.

"It can get really tough," he said. DeFlorio, a past in-school mentor himself, encourages people to volunteer as a big brother or big sister.

"The in-school program only requires an hour a week and you get to do easy things such as crafts and baking," said DeFlorio.

To find out how you can become a mentor to a young person visit www.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca.

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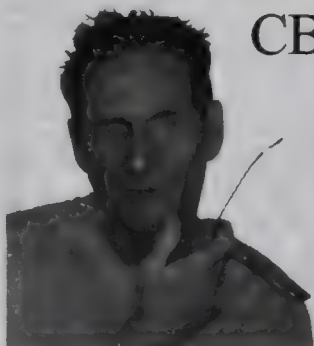
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The Code Airs to Clear The Fog of Icy Wars CBC's Fifth Estate Drops the Gloves on Fighting and the Big Lie



Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

The CBC's Fifth Estate documentary *The Code* hosted by Bob McKeon aired last Friday and it will take some hits on the chin for its forthright examination of hockey's bullyboy mentality.

The Code featured interviews with a few NHL enforcers, and the de rigueur talking head shots of some pro-brouhaha gurus including CBC commentator Don Cherry, Leafs GM Brian Burke and NHL Commissioner and pugilistic apologist Gary Bettman. The father, the son and the holy ghost. Who's who? It's a Vegas pick 'em.

What irks me most about this triune coven of contrarians - Cherry and Burke and Bettman - is that inordinate air of haughtiness. Speaking like Moses from the burning bush.

They dismiss anyone harboring anti-fighting ideals with an opulent puissance and a self-aggrandizing conceit. They remain insufferably arrogant and self-important on the subject of fighting.

Cherry regards people in the anti-fighting camp as simpletons or no-nothing leftists. Tree huggers, pansies, patsies and traitors. Cherry, in his fist-popping, ham-handed glee, accuses the anti-fighting set with conspiracy; conspiracy to bring down "hockey ... the only thing we (Canadians) do well." Yes Cherry said that in the course of an exchange with McKeown.

Apparently Donny-boy was somewhere getting his melon frazzled in the A-League when Lester Pearson won the Nobel Prize or when TC Douglas put up his dukes, chugged into a political void, and brought a world-renowned health care system to Canada.

According to Cherry, Bettman and Burke there is no room in the fan base for those wimps who feel hockey could survive without the punch, bump and grind.

Cherry, Burke and Bettman remind me of Rush Limbaugh, that Republican Party mouthpiece, who, like Cherry, has access to a national microphone and who is similarly prone to wielding hyperbole, cynicism, and fanaticism like an AK-47 stuck on auto.

Recently, on his nationally syndicated radio show, Limbaugh

said that returning soldiers and war veterans who espouse contempt for the conflict being waged in Iraq are "phony soldiers."

The comment sparked an outcry against the overstuffed redneck conservative flak. An outcry from those soldiers who had lost legs, arms and their sanity in the conflict. They carried the guns and feel they earned the right to speak yea or nay about the topic of Iraq. They are seriously pissed at Rush Limbaugh.

Forgive poor Rush. He's only using a time-honored tactic of the morally ambivalent. When challenged on ethics, shoot the messenger. Limbaugh and his neo-con ilk utilize the legacy of the "big lie" as their set piece.

Primary principle of the big lie? "Never allow the public to cool off; never admit a fault or wrong; never concede that there may be some good in your enemy; never leave room for alternatives; never accept blame; concentrate on one enemy at a time and blame him for everything that goes wrong; people will believe a big lie sooner than a little one; and if you repeat it frequently enough people will sooner or later believe it."

That quote, of course, taken from an excerpt of a US army psychoanalytic report on Adolph Hitler commissioned during World War II. Hitler was a big fan of the big lie.

I prefer New York comedian Richard Belzer's take on the "big lie": "If you tell a lie that's big enough, and you tell it often enough, people will believe you are telling the truth, even when what you are saying is total crap."

The big lie in hockey states that, "fighting is part of the game."

In the Fifth Estate last Friday evening the big lie was punched, pooped and propped ad infinitum, ad nauseum by that legion of fighting proponents. And when challenged

they sounded like Limbaugh. They offered disdain, they grabbed statistics from thin air, and they lashed out at the flower children, and the "phony fans."

Phony fan? According to Cherry it's a hockey aficionado with leftist tendencies that deigns to challenge the entrenched cognoscente with their lily-white abolitionist rhetoric. We are pansies, we followers of hockey who prefer the even-tempered dance of an International Olympic event with its attendant concentration on free-flow and exuberant dedication to skill, skating and style.

Fifth Estate host Bob McKeown interviewed a few non-pugilist activists including Fan 590 radio host Bob McCown who remains steadfast in his quest to staunch the bloody legacy of NHL fighting, and has for years been a no-nonsense dissembler and activist.

"I said somebody is going to get killed in a hockey fight and when it happens we'll see the hockey world turned upside down," said Bob McCown in the documentary.

McCown explained that when he first professed that very sentiment many years ago on his national radio show, Don Cherry didn't talk to him for four years. McCown had done the unthinkable. He challenged the Big Lie long before it was fashionable. And he earned the ire of the mainstream pundits, including Cherry. Cherry branded McCown as a "phony soldier" engaged in a struggle to ban fighting from the game. McCown was deemed a threat. An insider and sports guy who should know better. He became the enemy at the gates. The first tenet of the big lie kicked in. "Never concede that there may be some good in your enemy."

An interesting exchange between McKeown and Cherry serves to illuminate just how fervent this struggle has become. McKeown

told Cherry that a poll found that 60 percent of fans wanted a ban on fighting in hockey.

"No, no, no, no," said Cherry. He then went on to cite his "real" poll, which suggested that 70 percent or the "real fans" of the game and the bulk of hockey insiders supported fighting. Limbaugh's "phony soldiers" and Cherry's "phony fans." Part and parcel of the propaganda. Dismiss with disdain the "fakers."

A more disturbing excerpt was the little ditty came from Commissioner Bettman who said, "Fighting is part of the game ... it is the nature of the game ... it is the nature of constant non-stop action." Again, flirtation with the big lie, which has been refuted in basketball, in soccer, in football, and in countless other world sports events where fighting is rewarded with an automatic ejection.

And from Burke that sourpuss, newly-minted savior of the Leaf Nation comes this gem: "To me it regulates the violence that takes place on the ice sheet."

Which sums it all up quite nicely. Fighting for peace.

A beautiful little snippet of inevitable logic sliding from the big lie that begs the question.

Is it oxymoronic or just moronic?

Or both? ■



Don Cherry - a blooming dinosaur.

Sledders Do the Shuffle Annual Ride Raises Funds for West Guilford Recreation Centre



The annual West Guilford SnowShuffle has been deemed a success by its organizers.

The event, which is a poker run, raised about \$3,500 last Saturday for the West Guilford Recreation Centre. A total of 182 riders participated in the day of riding that allowed them to go on trails in West Guilford, Hawk Lake and Redstone Lake. Riders also had the chance to enjoy a home-cooked meal at the end of the day in the community centre and move to the music at a dance, where more money was raised.

The winner of the SnowShuffle, Craig Lagace of Minden, was awarded with over \$2,400 in cash at the end of the day. The top prize was taken from half of the money that was collected from participants' entry fees. ■

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Red Hawks Fall to Griffins in Kawartha Semis

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

It's season done for the Haliburton High hockey team.

The Hawks dropped a 4-2 decision in the second game of their best of three Kawartha Zone AA semi final against Thomas A Stewart Griffins last Thursday at Peterborough's Evirude Arena.

In the first game of the series last Monday at the Dysart Arena, the Red Hawks dropped a 3-2 decision despite a stellar effort and a decided shots on goal advantage.

Heading into the series, coach Ron Yake said that the whole Kawartha league was pretty evenly dispersed this season and that any team could beat any other team on any given night.

That prophecy played like Nostradamus last week as the first and second place teams both squandered home ice advantage and failed to advance to the Kawartha finals.

Second place Red Hawks lost to the third place Griffins and in another semi-shocker, the first place Holy Cross Crusaders dropped their series to fifth place Norwood.

Norwood and Thomas Stewart will play a one game Kawartha championship before both teams advance to the COSSA finals this week.

Yake was disappointed but philosophical after the two-straight ouster from Kawartha zones.

"It was pretty even game, and they (Thomas Stewart) played much better than they did last Monday when they were here," said Yake.

He said that the teams were tied heading into the third frame. But like the first contest, penalties eventually played a huge role in the outcome.

The Hawks took first one and then two penalties as things got underway in the third frame.

"We managed to kill that five on three power play, but they scored on the five on four and that made it 2-1," said Yake.

He said that the Hawks played well, but once again just failed to put the puck behind Griffin goaltender Kenton Lackey.

Yake also said that the Griffins also came to the game with a few more skaters than they had last Monday which led him to believe that some of their players may have been MIA in Haliburton due to some conflicts with their competitive Midget A teams.

Yake added that shots on goal were pretty even in the second game. Kenton Gadoway and Josh Townsend both scored for the Hawks in a losing cause. Paddy Manage was pegged for the loss, but Yake added that as usual he played well between the pipes. Manage and Monk-Cray shared goaltending duties throughout the year and they continued their rotation throughout three playoff games.

Yake said that overall and all things considered it was another solid season for the Red Hawks.

"Heading into the season we didn't know what to expect, especially after such a large turnover of players from the previous year," said Yake. He added that overall, including tournament and league play the Hawks finished with a respectable 15-10-1 record, including a second place finish in Kawartha league play.

"So overall we had a very competitive and very successful season," said Yake. "It was a wonderful group of high school boys to be coaching."

And, says Yake, the Haliburton High Red Hawks can take some small solace into the off-season.

They will be losing fifth year players Josh Townsend and Jesse Tallman and both goaltender Paddy Manage and Ryan Sherwood are in grade 12.

But other than the loss of those four players - assuming Manage and Sherwood decide not to stay for a fifth year - the Hawks will be returning a pretty solid core from their 17 player roster.

"There'll be a great nucleus of returning players and we can build on that for next season," said Yake, adding, "and I can see hockey here in Haliburton being very competitive for a number of years to come."

Hal High Curlers Still Chucking Granite at Windmills

Curlers add another Crown to Growing List of Accomplishments

On Monday, the Gore Provincial Curling Champs will be traveling to the COSSA curling finals in Bancroft.

The Hal High curling juggernaut continues to rule unflustered and indomitable, and like Don Quixote they seem locked in step and on a collision course with destiny. Chucking granite at all perceived ice bound windmills they remain unswerving on their quest to advance to the provincial tournament.

Skip Connor Dubhane, third Curtis Nichol, second Jesse Walker and lead Owen Dubhane handily won the Kawartha Zone Championship last Wednesday in Fenelon Falls.

The bold foursome swept away all competition on their march to the Kawartha crown. On Feb 17 they handily beat Norwood 9-3. On Feb. 23rd they edged out a strong St. Peter's contingent 6-4 and then last Wednesday they put the hammer down on Holy Cross by a score of 8-1. The Holy Cross Crusaders rebounded to take the B-Side of the Kawartha Zone playoffs and will face Haliburton advance to the COSSA showdown on Monday, March 9 in Bancroft.

The team, which won the prestigious Gore Provincial tournament two weekends hence, appears calm, assertive and confident. They will have to come armed for bear in Bancroft. Coach Tom Dibblee is sure that his team is ready, but also says that the format of the COSSA event is pressure packed.

"There are four teams and we play round robin," said Dibblee. In the event of a tie-break situation, the COSSA champion will be determined by the always shaky draw to the bottom. Dibblee said that it seldom comes to that, but all the same, he said that the foursome will have to bring their A-game.

The other two teams from the Quince board have yet to be determined and Dibblee said that it's always a crap shoot when you take to the ice against an unknown quantity.

And even though the red Hawks have beaten Holy Cross several times this year, there is no guarantee that on a different ice surface and on a different day, the Crusaders won't come up with the game of their lives.

Dibblee said that the foursome remains confident and are obviously ready for the challenge. If the red Hawks win COSSA they will be off to the OFSAA championships and a shot at their second provincial tournament win of 2009. Hurry hard in Bancroft.

Nordic Skiers Compete at OFSAA

Nordic Ski coach Sharon Dibblee brought four skiers to the OFSAA Nordic ski championships in Midland.

The course, while not as technically challenging as the track here at Glabe Park, brings its own share of challenges to the table.

"They have fewer hills than we have here, but they were bigger," said Dibblee. "All four of our team members placed in the top half of their categories which is a big success."

Dibblee said that Josh Wright skied a splendid race finishing 32nd in a field of 147 boys racers. Maddie Ferraon placed 45th and Claire Flannan placed 67th out of 145 senior girls competitors. Daniel Wright placed 73 out of 154 in his boys event.

Dibblee said that the downhill sections were "pretty intense" and that she was very proud of the four Red Hawk racers.

Snowboarders En Route to OFSAA

Snowboarders

Red Hawk snowboarders competed at Sir Sam's Ski Area last Thursday in the COSSA Snowboard Championships.

The Hawk Boys and Girls teams finished first and third respectively in the overall portion of the COSSA Event.

In the girls' individual events, Anna Boets placed second, Christiana Walker third, Alex Muenzer fourth and Tatum Van Aesthou was seventh. They all advance to the OFSAA Championships which run on Wednesday, March 11th.

In the Boys individual races Madison Rallis placed first, Jeff Fennell fourth, Brent Hicks was fifth and Alex Vasser placed seventh. They also moved on to the OFSAA finals on Wednesday.

Wrestling with COSSA

The Red Hawk wrestling team competed at the COSSA wrestling championships last week. Both boys and girls teams placed 3rd among 20 schools in the COSSA region.

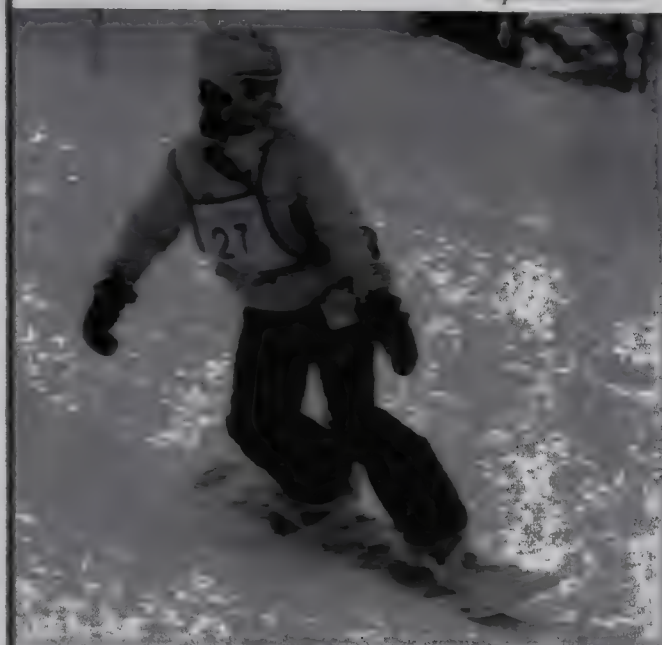
COSSA champions included Mike Mazurek, Justin Raim, Cory Griffin, Karl Kadowell and Christiana Walker.

In fourth place were Lily Comebeare and Jon Parsson. Third place winners included Nicole Mazurek and Hunter Fennell. Silver medalists were Sasha White and Mikaela Charlebois.

The wrestlers will now move on to the OFSAA Championships.

High School Round Up

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor



Red Hawks racer Heather Cummings, wearing bib number 27, along with a plethora of competitors from COSSA schools competed in the year-end Snowboard Slalom Races held at Sir Sam's Ski Area last Thursday. A number of Hal High racers advanced to the OFSAA provincial ice roadhouse. Results available next week.

Gate Crashing Propels Sir Sam's Ski Area into Spring



King and Queen and Sir Sam's Challenge Races Fill a Bill of Weekend Racing

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Sir Sam's Weekend at the Races.

Like the first robin, the appearance of Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue and the muted crack of fungo bats on baseballs in Dunedin, Sir Sam's Weekend at the Races ranks right up there as a lovely sashay into spring in the Highlands.

Sir Sam's Ski Area played host to a plethora of races and a full slate of racers and riders last weekend.

On Saturday the resort hosted the final day of racing for the Sir Sam's Challenge, a steadfast, enduring, and increasingly popular event at Sir Sam's Ski Area.

Resort co-owner Chris Bishop reports another successful cap to the Sir Sam's Challenge, which began way back in January with a series of seven Sunday races and ended on Saturday with the

A huge crowd was on hand for the Annual Awards ceremony held in conjunction with the final race of the Sir Sam's Challenge Series last Saturday afternoon at Sir Sam's Ski Area. Top right: Beth Foster receives a \$1000 cheque from JD Bishop. Above: King and Queen Event winners Erin Fenninger and Rene Serin.

wrapper.

The Saturday race is like Christmas Redux at the resort. Everyone who participates gets a prize and at least one lucky racer goes home with a grand prize of a grand. The prize tables were laden to overflowing with the usual booty.

Racers from 5 to 75 compete in the fast-track Giant Slalom event and the final Saturday always qualifies as an unqualified success.

This year was no different.

"There were 145 participants in the final race; over two hundred racers participated this year in the Challenge and 170 racers were qualified to enter the final race," said Bishop.

He added that over \$6,000 in cash and prizes were awarded, which is a tidy sum of donated loot from local businesses and sponsors, considering we are engaged in a little bit of an economic downturn.

All the downturns were strictly downhill last Saturday and Sunday.

And to cushion the blow of economic tsunami just a teensy bit, young Beth Foster took home the \$1,000 grand prize cheque. You can bet your next week's pay stub that Beth will not be spending a cent of that lovely windfall on shares in AIG. She has also blocked all incoming calls from Bernie Madoff.

On Sunday the resort hosted the popular King and Queen of the Hill race, an event that last year expanded to cover Duke, Duchess, Prince, Princess events. This year, for the first time, the popular King and Queen Race decided to add snowboarding royalty to the mix, making it a fully inclusive event for the first time in its history.

As usual Sir Sam's first family of skiing, the Fenninger's, figured prominently on the podium. Everyone's favorite "Mum" and race program director, Marianne Fenninger was there on the dais to present the medals to the Duke, Duchess, Prince and Princess winners, while husband Lou Fenninger, an Ontario Masters Gold medallist racer— who maintains that 55 is the new 30 - finished third in the King standings this year. Lou managed to bring it all to the hard packed tableau last Sunday and gave two younger racers a very real run for the money.

Rene Serin was crowned King of the Hill and Duncan Weenen placed second in the prestigious and long running men's race. Serin and Weenen have been trading punches in the King race for the past three years and this is Serin's third straight crown.

The daughters of Lou and Marianne (Queen Mum?), Erin and Victoria Fenninger placed one two respectively in the Queen event, while the Bonnie View's Andrea Hagerty placed third in the Queen of the Hill Race.

In Saturday's Sir Sam's Challenge final race, Weenen placed first in the men's open and Erin Fenninger placed first in the Women's open. (For a full list of winners just email me at sports@countyvoice.ca and I will email you a list of the winners in Word Format.)

In the Duke and Duchess category (12-18) Henry Saffrey was named Duke and Erin Currie was crowned as the Duchess. Andy Sutherland and Cameron Doughty placed second and third in the Dukes while Emma Webb and Vanessa Novak won silver and bronze in the Duchess.

Prince and Princess events (12 and under) went to Brandon Armstrong and Sarah Pomaras. Wes Oldfin silver in the Princess race and Brooke Oldfin placed third.

The Snowboard King event was won by Jesse Murray. Stephen Good Sr and everyone's favorite Sir Sam's groomer Cory placed third in the inaugural King Shred event. Stephanie Moulton won the Queen Shredder event.

Of course the Resort is now gearing up for the March Break and after that comes the never miss Spring Splash Weekend, which this year is tentatively slated for March 28th.

This weekend on Saturday March 7th Sir Sam's will be hosting a "Big Air" competition on the big kicker located on "Heartbreaker". See details on www.sirsams.com for times and registration details.

Big Air competitors can register in the morning, but must have a helmet and underage competitors will of course have to have an adult-signed waiver. Practice starts on the morning of the event and each entrant will get two runs.

"Beware Big Air" starts on Heartbreaker at 1 pm and runs till about 2:30 pm. ■



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HHHS LOOKING FOR NEW DIRECTORS

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation has openings for new directors — local residents and cottage owners who are anxious to help build on the outstanding services currently provided in the county. HHHS operates facilities in Minden and Haliburton providing emergency services, acute and long term care. As well, HHHS provides countywide mental health, diabetic education and supportive housing programs.

HHHS is privileged to have an outstanding team of health professionals and facilities less than a decade old. New initiatives have been undertaken in recent years to bring HHHS into the digital age and upgrades are underway to the two emergency rooms. Challenges persist in attracting new staff, meeting the needs of our aging population and anticipating and planning for the future.

The HHHS board strives to bring together a group of individuals with knowledge of the community. All property owners in Haliburton County are welcome to apply. HHHS is particularly interested in hearing from people with knowledge and interest in any of the following areas:

- Expertise in the planning and delivery of health services,
- Expertise in health care,
- Expertise in information systems or public relations/communications,
- Abilities, qualifications and skills to assist HHHS to meet its mission and vision,
- Experience on a community board.

If you feel you have the time, energy and commitment to be a Director, then we would like to hear from you by April 9, 2009. The new Directors will be appointed at the annual general meeting in June.

For further information and an application package, please contact:

Marlene Vieira
Executive Assistant to
President & CEO and the Board of Directors
Phone (705) 457-2527
Fax (705) 457-1071
mvieira@hhhs.on.ca
www.hhhs.on.ca

Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



Humans vs. Nature

Most wars during the last half of the 20th century occurred in areas that are home to the most diverse and environmentally threatened wildlife on Earth, according to a new report published in the journal *Conservation Biology*. From the use of the defoliant Agent Orange during the Vietnam War to the recent fighting near gorilla and hippopotamus habitats in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the researchers found that 81 percent of major armed conflicts between 1950 and 2000 were conducted in 34 regions referred to by Conservation International as "biodiversity hot spots." Such conflicts often occur in these areas because of the cover provided by their deep forests and tall mountains. War refugees add to the stress on these endangered environments by hunting for food, cutting trees for firewood and building camps, the report states.

No Warming Delay

Any hopes that the recent global economic downturn could temporarily delay climate change were dashed by a U.S. report that says the rate at which carbon dioxide is entering the atmosphere actually accelerated during 2008. Some analysts had predicted the recession would bring a 2 percent reduction in developed nations' greenhouse gas emissions. "For us to see (the impact) in the atmosphere it would take a large drop in emissions, but it hasn't happened yet and that's very clear from this data," said Thomas Conway, a NOAA climate scientist who helped prepare the report. He said that variations in natural processes, such as those in the forests and oceans that absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, can mask small changes in manmade emissions in the short term.

Forced Evacuations

Fresh explosions within a southern Chilean volcano prompted authorities to force residents of a nearby city to evacuate for the second time in less than a year. About 150 people had returned to the area around Chaiten despite it being virtually destroyed last May by the first eruption in 9,000 years of a nearby volcano of the same name. Chile's emergency service agency said any new explosions of the smoldering mountain could send a huge cloud of superheated debris and gas cascading into the heart of Chaiten. "The government's not going to allow people to burn themselves up or commit collective suicide," Justice Ministry spokesman Francisco Vidal told reporters. A navy boat removed all 17 youths in the group over the objections of some parents.

Polar Warming

Results of studies conducted during the U.N.-sponsored International Polar Year (IPY) have found that the Arctic and Antarctic regions are warming faster than previously thought. Researchers announcing the initial results of their studies said it appears drastic global climate change and rising sea levels are now more likely than ever. "Snow and ice are declining in both polar regions, affecting human livelihoods as well as local plant and animal life in the Arctic as well as global atmospheric circulation and sealevel," the IPY report states.

Indian Ocean Cyclone

Cyclone Hina became the season's 16th storm in the region as it developed over the central Indian Ocean. The storm was a threat to only shipping lanes.

Earthquakes

A moderate earthquake in far western China left at least 330 families homeless after the shaking destroyed buildings in the Xinjiang region on Feb. 20. The official Xinhua news agency reports that while there were no injuries or fatalities from the quake, it did cause at least some damage to more than 10,000 houses.

• Earth movements were also felt in northern Sumatra, central Japan and the San Francisco Bay Area.

Magnetic Confusion

Wildlife officials in Florida launched a scheme to determine if crocodiles can be kept from returning to residential neighborhoods by attaching magnets to their heads. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) biologists believe the technique will disrupt the reptiles' "homing" ability after they have been relocated to habitats away from the human population. FWC researchers say their studies have documented that "translocated" crocodiles travel an average of 10 miles per week back to their capture site through a poorly understood navigational ability. It's believed that the fiercely territorial animals rely to some degree on Earth's magnetic field to navigate. The new FWC experiment is designed to disrupt this ability through the use of magnets taped to each side of a captured crocodile's head as it is being transported to its new home. It is hoped that once the magnets are removed just prior to release, the reptile will be so disorientated that it will be unable to find its way back.

Distributed by: Universal Press Syndicate
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Have Your Say...
VOX POP

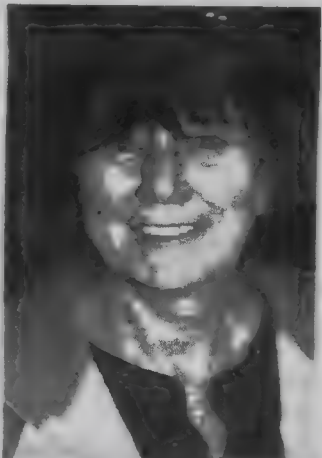
We asked people, "How do you feel about the possibility of the closure of the only obstetrics bed in Haliburton?"



Jon Petrie, Eagle Lake – "We had our two kids at a hospital in Markham. I think the removal of this bed is troublesome for lower income families who can't afford transportation. Staffing always seems to be an issue here in the County. My dad was a family doctor and he delivered babies for probably 25 years."



Lorne Dinesen, Wilberforce – "It seems that because we're a smaller community, we're getting stripped of our resources. We should be expanding, not losing services. In the summer the population triples and I'm sure that there are some women who may be in need of services. If you start taking these things away, the community is going to die."



Sharold Smith, Gooderham – "My cook's daughter just had to go to Peterborough to have her baby. I really think it should be kept going. Families here have to travel so far. That gets costly and many don't even have a vehicle. Babies don't care when they're born and this could lead to more of them being born in the back seat of a car."



Tim Pringle, Haliburton – "It's ridiculous considering that there's only one. It's a long way for someone to travel who might face an emergency. For what it would cost to keep it open, it shouldn't be an issue. They certainly should keep it open. There shouldn't be a need for any other decision."

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MOOSE FM

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For week of Mar. 16/09

Horoscopes

It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: YBORN THIS WEEK:
Your wisdom is matched by your generosity. You are a person who people know they can rely on.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although you tend to bore easily and leave others to finish what you start, this is one time when you'd be wise to complete things on your own. Then you can move on to something new.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Your indecision about a personal situation might come out of those mixed signals you're getting. Best not to make any commitments until you have a better sense of how things are going.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A dispute appears to be getting out of hand. But you should be able to step in and bring it all under control soon. Be patient. News about a potential career move might be delayed.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Career obligations could interfere with important personal plans. But using a combination of common sense and compromise helps resolve the dilemma to everyone's satisfaction.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A stressful situation drains some of your energy reserves. But you soon bounce back in time to finish your tasks and enjoy a well-deserved weekend getaway.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) This is a good time to throw a party for friends and colleagues and surprise them with your dazzling domestic skills. You might also want to reconsider that career move you put on hold.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A sudden change of mind by someone you relied on could cause a delay in moving ahead with your plans. But those whom you've helped out before are prepared to return the favor.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You start the week feeling too shy to speak up in front of others. However, your self-assurance soon takes over, giving you the confidence you need to make yourself heard.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) One way to deal with a pesky personal dilemma this week is to meet it head-on. Insist on an explanation of why the situation reached this point and what can be done to change it.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The creative Capricorn finds several outlets for her or his talents this week. Also note that while a romantic connection looks promising, remember to allow it to develop on its own.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) You stand out this week as the best friend a friend can have. But be careful that you don't take too many bows, or you might see gratitude replaced with resentment.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) What seems to be an ideal investment should be checked out thoroughly before you snap at the offer and find yourself hooked by an expensive scam.

Minden Swept from GMHL Playoffs in Three River Kings Stay Close but Finally Fall to Bobcats

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

As their season dwindled to that fine powder, the Minden River Kings put it all on the ice.

Seldom does justice enter into the equation when you've just left your heart on the chilled surface of an arena and you're looking into the gaping finality of a 6-3 loss and an end to a season.

So no justice perceived by the River Kings who actually chugged back to tie the game at three in the second period after falling behind 3-1 in that pivotal middle frame.

The fans knew it. They screamed, they pled and they grieved with their team last Sunday evening.

And so some poetic justice at least, served in Minden, on the first day of March in the friendly confines of the SG Nesbitt Arena.

Competing in their first season and their first Greater Metro Hockey League (GMHL) playoff series, the Kings refused, like Dylan Thomas's father, to "go gentle into that good night."

The Kings raged and raged against the dying of the light, even down two games to a talented group of players from Elliot Lake, that former mineshaft turned retirement commune.

Maybe poetic justice was served, but you won't convince any one of the players on that Minden bench that they deserve to be at season's end, some packing for home, and some just pondering spring in the Highlands.

So, on Sunday the Kings shook off the trappings of two previous playoff losses last Thursday and Friday to the Bobcats. Remember that the second place Bobcats finished the season a full 19 points ahead of the fifth place River Kings in the tough Northern Division.

So no one on the River Kings bench assumed that that this quarter final series would be a cakewalk.

The Bobcats beat Minden 4-2 on Thursday and won 9-2 on Friday, setting up a must-win situation in game three of the best of five North Division quarter final series.

Coach Brooks Robinson fully expected to win that game last Sunday. But he was okay with the outcome.

Because he said that he got exactly what he asked for. A full effort, a great game and some gutsy play on behalf of all his River King players.

"All those guys worked hard on every shift," said Robinson.

Indeed, the Kings took an early lead with a goal by Calvin Northam just 45 seconds into the contest. The early goal seemed to inspire the Kings who stayed on top of the Bobcats for the better part of a very even first period.

The 1-0 score held up until the last five minutes of the first when goals by Cooper Limb and Mitch Kriz allowed the Bobcats to take a 2-1 lead into the first intermission. Limb was the star of the game, scoring three times and adding an assist to lead all scorers.

Limb scored again early in the second to stretch that lead to 3-1 and that's when the River Kings seemed to answer the call of their fans who never once let their team get locked into a rut. They pounded glass, yelled and urged the Kings on.

And as if on cue the Kings heard the fans and rallied.

Garrett Simmons and Brier Hill scored to tie the game at three. Just after that tying goal, another apparent Minden goal that appeared to cross the line was waved off by the officials. That was followed in short order by an up-ice Bobcat rush and a Brendan Galley goal which seemed to take some wind from the Kings' sails. Ryan Thistle added another to stretch the lead to 5-3 after two. Limb scored the only goal of the third period to get earn the hat-trick.

Andrew Selbie once again played a superb game for the Kings

in net. The young goaltender came into camp this year as the third goaltender on a depth chart that saw three promising goaltenders come and go in a ceaselessly churning revolving door. Selbie stayed, worked hard and earned his starting role by dint of his undying work ethic and a quick twitch glove hand that certainly carried the Kings to victory on a number of occasions this season.

Kudos also had to go to a voracious set of forecheckers, including some inspired play from assistant captain Devin Hunter and the play of two tireless Tylers, Crego and Wright, who buzzed around the Bobcat net all night long.

Eno had two assists while Hill and Brett Meyers added helpers to round out the Kings scoring.

All three lines played well for the Kings in the loss and Robinson said that he was proud of his squad's output.

"They (the officials) missed a goal and I think that if we would have got credit for it, it could have meant the difference in the game," said Robinson.

After the game talk turned to next season. Robinson said that they will be losing Zach Joanu, Northam and Jeff Beall to age restrictions. He added that team captain Brett Meyers, the Minnesota Maestro, will be looking at options in the states, perhaps at college or in a competitive US hockey league.

However, he is hoping that a good number of the local players like Crego, Hunter, Eno, Lane Schmid, and Wright will be returning.

"Right now it looks like we've got a pretty good returning nucleus," said Robinson. "But nothing is written in stone, so we'll be looking to fill out our roster in the spring and summer."

Of course, he and new General Manager Derrick Randles are the new owners of the River Kings and Robinson said that they will be getting busy with some advanced scouting.

On deck is a player development tourney in Chicago and Boston's Chowder Cup, which is set for July.

Both tournaments showcase junior talent from both Canada and the US. Also figuring prominently on the schedule will be the upcoming GMHL draft.

Robinson said that he and Randles will be attending those tournaments and Randles, a native of Texas, will also be looking at utilizing some of his many contacts down south to seek possible additions to the 2009-10 Minden River Kings roster.

Robinson said that he wanted to give a large shout out to the fans that supported the Kings through some lean times this season.

"I want to thank all of our fans, we really appreciate them and I just wanted them to know how much we all owe them," said Robinson.

As part of that recognition, the River Kings players all signed a jersey and Robinson and Randles presented the autographed jersey to their number one fan Tanner Hamilton during the first period intermission.

Robinson said that young Tanner has been an integral part of the team through the whole season.

"What a great young kid," laughed Robinson. "He phones me every night to ask if he can come to practice and he's there every day."

He handed the sweater over to his brother Dawson who left the game early with dad, proudly wearing the River Kings jersey. Tanner stayed to the end and helped his River Kings' brothers close the gate on this first season.

Robinson and Randles want to assure their fans that they will be working very hard to consolidate some vital sponsorship links in the local community and they will also be looking at making the River Kings into a vital contender for the GMHL crown next season. ■



Storm Takes Split in Tavistock

The Highland Storm Peewee As travelled to Tavistock last weekend for the first two games of their All Ontario Semi-Final showdown with the Tavistock Titans. In Game One on Saturday the Storm went out in front in the second period on a hard shot by Julia Fedeski, assisted by Devon Upton, but the Titans put the pressure on, and evened it up at six minutes later and scored the winning goal nine minutes into the third period.

On Sunday in Game Two the Storm again took a first period 1-0 lead on a goal by Connor Dollo, assisted by Tyler Barry and Jacob Sisson but the Titans again came back with two second period goals to grab the lead. But the Storm were not to be denied, evening the score at two at the three minute mark with a goal by Tyler, assisted by Jake and Nate Feir. And finally, at the 10 minute mark, Curtis Ballantyne scored the winner, assisted by Devon. And to make the nail-biting even worse, the Storm had to fight off a Titans power play for the last four minutes of the game.

All in all, a strong team effort, backed by Brayden Frost in goal, to earn the split. The teams play this Friday at 8:00 pm in Minden, again in Minden on Saturday at 3:00, and if necessary in Minden at 2:00 on Sunday. ■

Source Acquired by Bell

More Bell Services to be available at Halco Electronics

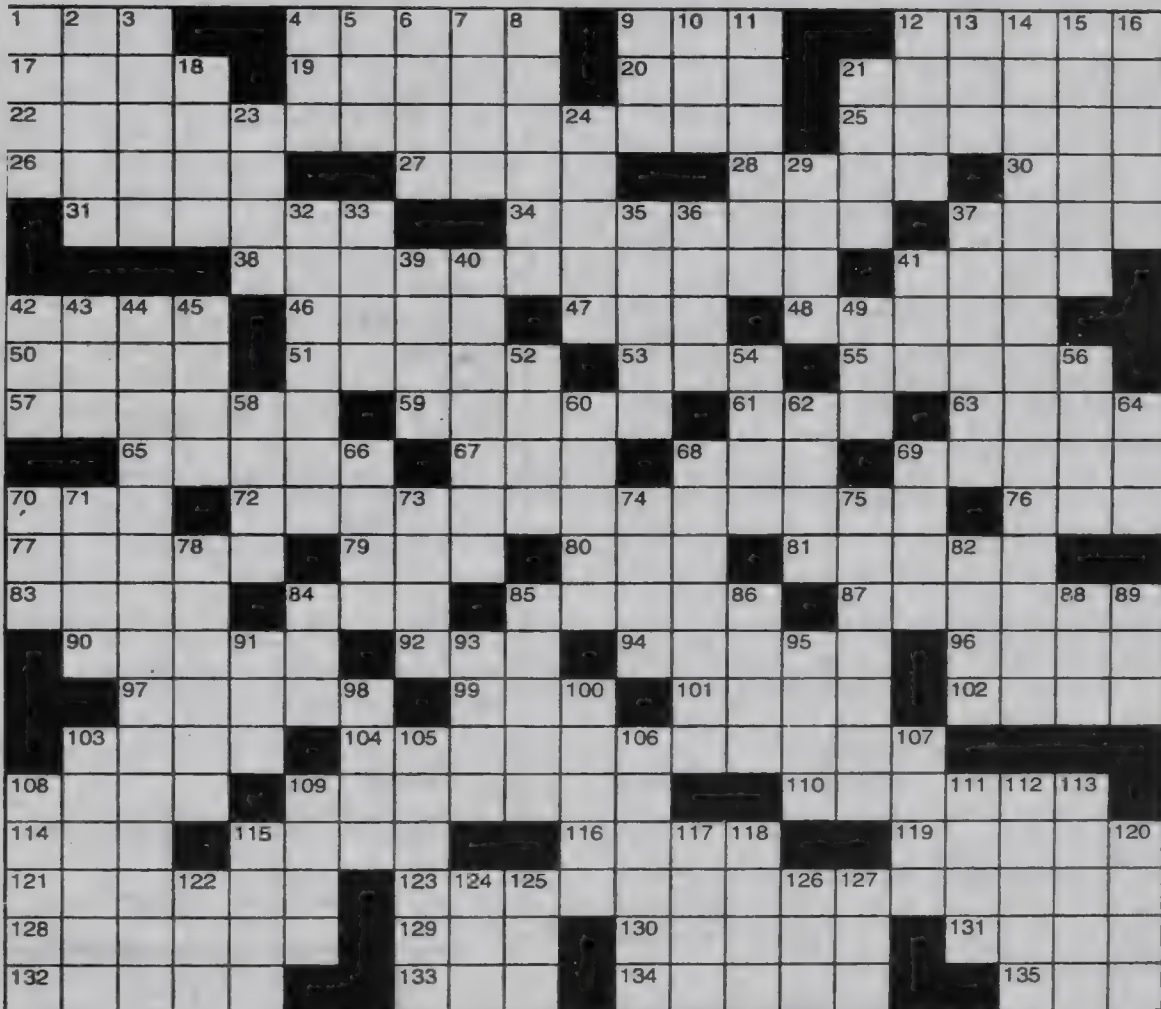
Intertan Canada Ltd, the company that owns The Source by Circuit City, has been acquired by Bell, although the purchase still requires regulatory approval.

The Source is run in Haliburton independently as Halco Electronics. Halco Owner Don Vannood commented that he hopes the move will provide an even greater array of products for his store. Intertan Canada said that The Source stores will "retain its brand, business model and product mix. More specifically, The Source stores will carry the full array of Bell consumer services, including Bell Mobility, Solo Mobile, and potentially Virgin Mobile wireless products, as well as Bell ExpressVu, high-speed Bell Internet and Bell Home Phone products."

These products are expected to be in the stores by January of 2010. Vannood also hopes that, "we will continue to be able to offer Star Choice and Rogers products as well, given that Bell has stated it wants to continue with our 'product mix'. So this is potentially very good news for us, particularly as it comes at a difficult time for many businesses." □

Super Crossword WELL-ROUNDED

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| CROSS | 59 Parasite | 101 Football's Van | 3 Type | 40 Babe in the woods | 88 Member of the mil. |
| 1 Existed | 61 Casserole cover | 102 Like kids at Christmas | 4 Except | 41 Theater sign | 89 Joke |
| 4 Obscure | 63 Place of origin | 103 Drescher of "The Nanny" | 5 Monty's milieu | 42 Arthur of "Maude" | 91 Tons of time |
| 9 Apply lightly | 65 Pack peppers | 104 Hollywood award | 6 What the shoe does | 43 Griffin greeting | 93 Hard on the eyes |
| 12 Fashionably nostalgic | 67 New Deal agcy. | 108 Banister | 7 — Rios, Jamaica | 44 Minnie Driver film | 95 Author Hubbard |
| 17 Choir member | 68 Reggae's Marley | 109 Cheeseboard choice | 8 Ancient tongue | 45 Successor | 98 Brute |
| 19 City on the Mohawk | 69 "Roots" Emmy winner | 110 Jet of yore | 9 Couple | 49 Bizarre | 100 Pied-a- — |
| 20 Actor | 70 Blanc or Brooks | 114 Fury | 10 Past | 52 Rosemary or basil | 103 Breakfast food |
| 21 Shrivel up | 72 The Cyrkle hit | 115 Encounter | 11 Tiny tree | 54 Hunk of gunk | 105 Get the better of |
| 22 Joe Hamell | 76 Narcs' org. | 116 — Lama | 12 Indian export | 56 Hook's henchman | 106 Kevin of "SNL" |
| 25 In distress | 77 Sheepish sound | 119 Dropped the ball | 13 Archaic ending | 58 Transport | 107 Part of EMT |
| 26 Actress Shire | 79 Sandra of "A Summer Place" | 121 "Blue Velvet" singer | 14 Gary Lewis & the Playboys hit | 60 Plot | 108 Shipbuilding need |
| 27 Individual performances | 80 Neighbor of Tenn. | 123 Merv Griffin creation | 15 Let | 62 Bridge support | 109 Passed-on item |
| 28 Asta's father | 81 Tracking tool | 128 Salad veggie | 16 Phantom instrument | 64 Bikini part | 111 Fleming and Linkletter |
| 30 Police hqrs. | 83 Singer | 129 — Man ("67 hit) | 18 Skip | 66 Whirlpool | 112 Consequences alternative |
| 31 Profited | 84 Spud bud | 130 Senator Hatch | 21 Beaver's dad | 68 Like mountain air | 113 Skater |
| 34 NATO member | 85 Vote in | 131 Mix | 23 "I could — horse!" | 69 With 117 Down, Italian statesman | 115 Budge |
| 37 Churchill's successor | 87 Dull | 132 Cafe vessel | 24 Biblical book | 70 Exec's deg. | 117 See 69 Down |
| 38 Jason Biggs film | 90 Time and again | 133 Craggy hill | 29 "Mockingbird" singer | 71 Actor | 118 Fluffy coif |
| 41 Coasted | 92 It may be fake | 134 Peter of Herman's Hermits | 32 Attempt to equal | 73 Shorten a sail | 120 Bruce of "Coming Home" |
| 42 Fugue composer | 94 Stringed instrument | 135 Lady lobster | 33 Oscar — Renta | 74 Hgt. | 122 "Whether — nobler in the mind..." |
| 45 — Bator | 96 Machu Picchu native | DOWN | 35 Tennyson's Arden | 75 '59 Ritchie Valens hit | 124 Medical grp. |
| 47 Grab all the goodies | 97 Tolkien character | 1 Float on the breeze | 36 Green org. | 78 Starry | 125 Corn portion |
| 48 Anthony Quinn role | 99 Attained | 2 Jones of "Show Boat" | 37 Wades through a crowd | 82 Pearce piece | 126 Perch part |
| 50 Pennsylvania port | | | 39 Julia of "Havana" | 84 Remnant | 127 Waugh's "The Loved —" |
| 51 Crack up | | | | 85 Carve a canyon | |
| 53 Taxi | | | | 86 Implement | |
| 55 Condemns | | | | | |
| 57 Where to find a fennec | | | | | |



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Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: How do you convince co-workers to stay on topic and on track in business meetings? Each week I am required to attend a mandatory meeting, and each week the people in that meeting drag in personal issues or start talking about the news. I have tried suggesting that we stay on track and keep the meetings brief, but it's not working -- especially since management is one of the worst offenders. Please respond! -- ON TRACK IN LAWTON, OKLA.

DEAR ON TRACK: Some companies have eliminated meetings for exactly the reason you have described and found that productivity increased. Those who schedule regular meetings keep them on track by listing the subjects to be discussed on an agenda and sticking to it. However, someone must control the meeting and ensure that the agenda is adhered to.

Because your boss is causing the problem, there is nothing you or I can do about it. If it was another employee, "someone" could suggest that the topic of conversation wasn't on the agenda and a better time for discussing it would be during a break or at lunch.

DEAR ABBY: A dear cousin let me know that she'll be coming to visit for two weeks. My problem is, she's allergic to everything and has asked me to purchase special foods for her and to board my cats for the duration of her stay.

The food and boarding fees are very expensive, and I don't earn that much. Also, my cats are my children. They won't be happy to be away from me, nor will I be happy to have them away. My cousin asked me to do these things after she informed me that she had already purchased her airline tickets. What should I do? -- BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE

DEAR BETWEEN: If your presumptuous "dear" cousin is "allergic to everything," then surely she must be aware that her allergies will be triggered if she is exposed not only to your cats, but also the dander that they have shed on the furniture, carpets and possibly the window treatments in your home. In other words, boarding your "children" may not be enough to prevent an allergic reaction.

For her sake and yours, before she arrives give her a list of reasonably priced, pet-free hotels and motels close by. Her health could depend on it.

P.S. Room service should be able to cater to her dietary needs.

Do you have your
subscription to the
Voice yet?

Check out page 7
for details on how
to get yours today.

Announcements

Notices



Municipality of Dysart et al NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Council of the Municipality of Dysart et al will be conducting a public meeting on Monday, April 6th, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. to consider the proposed amendments to various Fees and Charges.

The amendments pertain to the following fees:

- Driveway Entrance Permits
- Arena Ice Rental Rates
- Ball Diamond Rental Rates
- Road Damage Re-inspection Fees
- Building Permit Fees
- Sewage Service Rates

Further information on the proposed fees and charges are available on the Municipality's website at www.dysartetal.ca, or at the Dysart Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0.



TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF COLOURED DIESEL FUEL AND FURNACE OIL

The Municipality of Dysart et al is inviting tenders for the supply of coloured diesel fuel and furnace oil effective May 1st, 2009 – April 30th, 2011.

Tender Documents and execution forms can be obtained at the Dysart Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton, Ontario or on our website at www.dysartetal.ca.

Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 30th, 2009.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Lost

LOST DOGS

LOKE (brown & black) and KIP (mainly black)



Last seen Saturday, Feb. 21/09 at the south end of Deep Bay Rd. near Leary's Lane/Hwy 35.
Both dogs are micro-chipped, German Shepherd/Collie crosses, wearing collars with identification. They are friendly with children and adults.
If seen please call Rod or Debbie anytime, at 416-667-8925, 905-713-9955 or on the weekend at 705-286-4357.

REWARD

Birth

It's A Girl!
Excited parents Chris & Fiona would like to announce a new baby sister for Tyler and Paige.
Kylie Sophia Hewitt
Born Feb. 11, 2009
at 9:37 a.m.
7 pounds, 1 ounce.

In Memory of

Davis - Frank and Mae

In loving memory
of our Mom & Dad,
Grandmother & Grandfather.

Mom - February 18, 2004
Dad - March 10, 1991

*Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered every day.
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts you are always there.*

Forever in our hearts and sadly missed by Willis,
Doreen, John, grandchildren, great grandchildren.

Coming Events



Township of Algonquin Highlands

Stanhope Soccer League Registration

Tuesday, March 17, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
and

Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Boys and Girls

Ages 5 to 14 as of June 16, 2009

Stanhope Fire Fighter's Hall

North Shore Road, Camarvon

****Important****

Bring your Health Card

Volunteer Coaches, Assistant Coaches
and Student Coaches needed.

Please call the Recreation Department at
705-766-9968 for more information.

County Voice *Easy to Read* Classifieds

Deadline for Classifieds is every Monday at noon

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Golden Rescue, The Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc. URGENTLY needs foster homes, vet services, "forever" homes, donations, members, fundraisers/volunteers. Help us care for this magnificent breed. Anything you can do would be greatly appreciated. For information please contact us at 1-866-712-8444 or visit www.golden-rescue.net. (E1209-0011)

Lost

LOST - Sterling Haida Eagle ring. Size 8. 457-9261

For Rent

FOR RENT - 2 bedroom "furnished" apartment for rent in Haliburton Available now until fall. \$650.00 per month + utilities. 3 kms of town just past the Independent. References required. Ask for Ray 705-457-1402 days. (E1209-0013)

For Sale

WOOD FOR SALE - Cut, split and delivered. Order early for next year. Call Darren at 754-9988 (D0209-0051)

FOR SALE - Automotive, Snowmobile, ATV, Marine Parts & Accessories. Complete line of Hunting, Archery, Fishing tackle, Paintball, Soft Air Guns & Accessories, and Live Bait & Licensing. The Wild Outdoors formerly CC Enterprises. 163 Highland Street, Haliburton (705) 457-5334 Open 7 days a week. (D0609-0018)

FOR SALE - NEW COMPLETE SEPTIC SYSTEMS. 30 Years of experience in Minden and Haliburton area. We take care of all paperwork and permits. Fully licenced, health unit inspected. Call for a free estimate, Brent Colman Trucking and Excavating at 705-286-3952 or 1-800-357-8711 (E1209-0019)

Vehicles For Sale

92 BURG. MAZDA PROTEGE - Lots of new parts, \$400 o.b.o. Call 457-9365

Wanted

WANTED - Old or antique used furniture, one piece or whole estates bought plus clean-up of everything also cars, trucks, boats trailers if the price is right I will make you a deal on anything call Richard in Tory Hill at 448-3920. Clean up of scrap cars or metal as well. (E1209-0023)

Services

PAINTER FOR HIRE - Professional - Meticulous - Reasonable Rates - Call Gailon Valleau 457-3562 (D0209-0057)

FROZEN PIPES? : Water, septic, ice buildup, culverts. Call 286-1995 (C0309-0025)

FTA SATELLITE SYSTEMS 1000's of channels, no program fees, all satellite system installs. 306-0023 (local call) (E1209-0027)

ODD JOB JACK - your local handyman 448-9965 For any and all odd jobs. What can we do for you? Email odd-jobjack@yahoo.ca (E1209-0028)

Notices

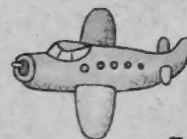
HALIBURTON HOSPITAL AUXILIARY FUND RAISER

St. Patrick Luncheon - Steak Pie and Salad Luncheon Tuesday March 17, 2009, At the Haliburton Legion From 11:30 am to 1:00 pm Entertainment by Kathleen Owens and Earl Cooper Cost: \$7.00 per Adult \$3.50 Under 10 Yrs. Payable at Door.

JACK & JILL
Juston & Cynthia
West Guilford Community Centre
March 28th, 2009
9 pm - 1 am
Tickets \$10
Call 286-3240

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, A Christ-centered recovery group for all of life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. A time of worship, teaching, Small Groups, and community. Meet others journeying this same road as you, & take steps towards freedom from the addictive, compulsive and dysfunctional behaviours that hold your life back. Every Monday Night 7 - 10 PM at Lakeside Baptist Church, 9 Park Street, Haliburton. 457-2851 www.celebratercovery.com (E1209-0029)

Thank You



THANK YOU!!!

A Great Big

THANK YOU

to Dr. Heyes
and all the wonderful nurses
for taking extra special care
of me while at the Haliburton Hospital.
Thank you to Dr. Coles
and all the staff
and nurses in Emergency
for their unbelievable service and care.
I feel brand new again!

Bill Welsh

Help Wanted

Job Opportunity

With the expansion of
Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve Ltd,
we are currently looking to hire
a full time receptionist
for our new sawmill.
An ideal candidate will
have solid working knowledge of computers and data
management and be flexible to work in many different
areas of the company.

Please send a resume to: hr@haliburtonforest.com
or
Haliburton Forest & Wild Life Reserve Ltd.
1095 Redken Drive RR#1
Haliburton Ontario
K0M 1S0.

Help Wanted



Summer Positions Available

The Haliburton Highlands Golf Club
is now accepting applications
for the 2009 golf season.

The positions available are grounds,
pro shop and driving range.
Interested applicants should submit their
resume to

3180 Kashagawigamog Lake Road,
Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0
or online at golf@haliburtongolf.com
by March 30, 2009.

2009 Memberships

2009 Memberships are now available at discount pricing.
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Call 457-2233 for details of memberships available.

Help Wanted

Point in Time
Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

have the following
Summer Positions available

**Day Camp Coordinator
(College or University)
Male and Female Summer Adventure
Day Camp Counselors**

Qualified individuals will provide a stimulating and fun experience
for children within Haliburton County. Complete job descriptions are
available on line at www.pointintime.ca or by calling (705) 457-5345.

Day Camp Coordinator Position Employment Period:
June 1st-August 28th, 2009
(13 weeks)

Rate of Pay: up to \$12.50/hour plus travel allowance.

Counselors Employment Period:
June 30-August 25th, 2009 (8 weeks)
Rate of Pay: up to \$10.00/hour.

Send all resumes and covering letters to:
Hiring Committee,
Point in Time, P.O. Box 1306, Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0;
or fax to 705-457-3492; or e-mail to info@pointintime.ca
Closing date: Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Point in Time
Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

have the following
Summer Positions available

**Autism (ASD) Consultants
Summer Camp Respite Workers
Small Group Respite Workers**

Qualified individuals will provide a stimulating and fun experience
for children (ages 3-18) with special needs in community and camp
settings in Haliburton County. Complete job descriptions are
available on line at www.pointintime.ca or by calling (705) 457-5345.

Requirements: EA/PSW/ECE Diploma or college/university
students with experience working with youths with developmental
and behaviour challenges.
Vehicle required. Valid First Aid & CPR certificate.

Employment period: June 29 - Aug. 28, 2009.
Work hours are flexible 15-45/week.
Rate of pay: \$12-\$18/hour (based on qualifications)
plus travel allowance.

Send all resumes and covering letters to:
Hiring Committee,
Point in Time, P.O. Box 1306, Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0;
or fax to 705-457-3492; or e-mail to info@pointintime.ca
Closing date: Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Final Wrap for Minden's Winterfest

Putting the final wrap up on Winterfest Minden's festivities, the winners of the Photo Contest and other draws were announced at Minden's Council Meeting on February 26.

The photo contest drew 29 entries, which is twice as many as compared to 2007. There were great photos submitted in all four categories.

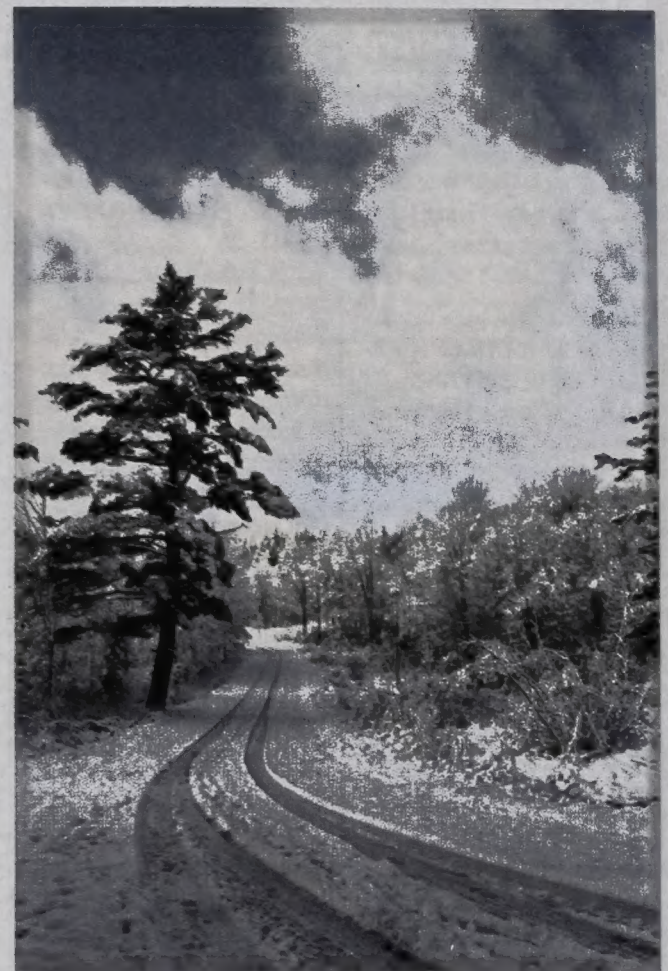
cont'd. below...



Winter People Winner: "Snow Dance" - Siân Cox
People's Choice Winner: "Snow Dance" - Siân Cox



Winter Critters Winner: "Take Off" - Siân Cox



Winter Scenery Winner: "Winter Road" - Siân Cox



Winter Activity Winner: "Pond Hockey" - Carol Sanio



Winter People Runner-up: "Snow Woman" - Carol Sanio

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Winter Scenery Runner-up: "Enjoying the Scenery" - Hilde Moraal

The most entries were received in the winter scenery category with 13. The People's Choice Award voting showed that voters had a wide variety of favourites, with 19 of the 29 entries receiving at least 1 vote. Congratulations to all the winners.

With the very successful curling fun day and chili contest, the event raised \$1,000 towards Minden's Sesquicentennial celebrations. Watch out for the next Sesquicentennial event, the Minden Figure Skating Carnival on March 28, and of course don't miss the Birthday Parties on April 1. For more information check the website at www.minden150.ca.

Ice Racing Wraps Up With Perfect Weather

Photos & Story By:
Lyn Winans

The weather cooperated this past weekend for the final two days of the 34th Kinsmen ice-racing series held at the Minden Fairgrounds. Kin national president, Doug Robinson, was on hand to accept a monogrammed shirt presented by Minden club president, Tom Prentice Sr. along with Zone C Vice Deputy Governor, Andy Hughes, and Deputy Governor Mike Day. Awards will be announced at the ice-racing banquet in Ajax on April 4th.■



(L to R) Tom Prentice Sr., Andy Hughes, Mike Day & Doug Robinson



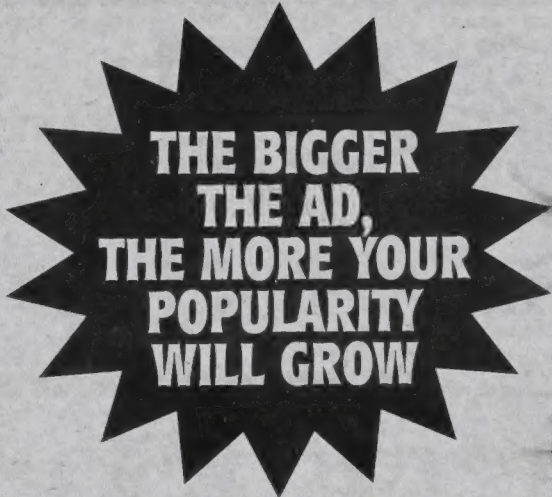
Local racer and Minden Kin president Tom Prentice Sr.

Crossword Answer

WAS		BEFOG		DAB		RETRO
ALTO		UTICA		UGO		WITHER
FLYMETO		THEMOON				ACHING
TALIA		SOLI		SIRE		STA
NETTED		ICELAND		EDEN		
		AMERICANPIE		SLID		
BACH		ULAN		HOG		ZORBA
ERIE		LAUGH		CAB		DOOMS
AFRICA		LEECH		LID		WOMB
CRATE		NRA		BOB		ASNER
MEL		REDRUBBERBALL				DEA
BLEAT		DEE		ALA		RADAR
AMOS		EYE		ELECT		BORING
		OFTEN		FUR		VIOLA
		FRODO		GOT		NORM
		FRAN		GOLDENGLOBE		AGOG
RAIL		GRUYERE		NAMATH		
IRE		MEET		RAMA		ERRED
VINTON		WHEEL		OFFFORTUNE		
ENDIVE		IMA		ORRIN		STIR
TASSE		TOR		NOONE		HEN

BIGGER IS BETTER!

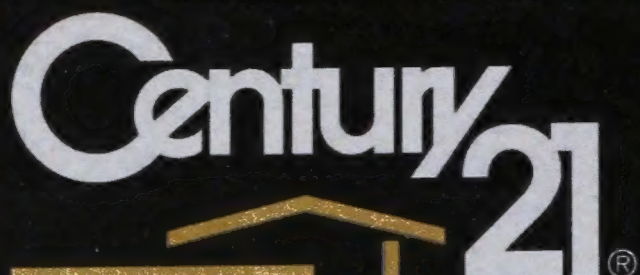
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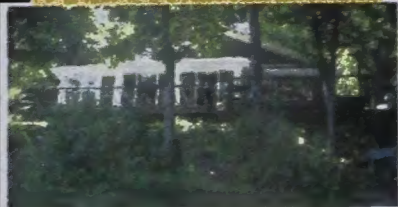
The Local Experts™

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve. Simply move in.
Paul Szpik - 457-2128

Soyers Lake \$569,000



Awesome 5 lake chain, great cottage with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, charming open concept interior and 2 storey double car garage

Derrell and Kim Stamp 457-2128

Recently Renovated! \$189,900



3 BR home, large kitchen, hardwood floors, stone f/p, large rec room could be 4th bed, w/attached single car garage, walk to all the amenities of Haliburton.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Koshlong Lake \$259,800



Very neat and clean 3 BR cottage. Great sand/rock shoreline. Boathouse at waters edge with a large sitting deck above it to enjoy the evening sunsets.

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Beech River \$359,000



3 BR Waterfront home, private setting with that "cottage" feel. Sandy shoreline, deep water off dock with excellent access to Beech & Boshkung Lakes.

Tom Ecclestone 286-2128

Hunter Creek \$83,900



Well cared for home has many upgrades in adult only community just 2 min from Minden. Small Maint. Fee covers snow removal, garbage p/u and much more.

Dagmar Boettcher - 286-2138

Build Your Dream Home!



5 Acres - \$24,900; 1/2 acre country lot - \$25,000; almost 4 acres in West Guildford - \$29,900; 1/2 Acre in town - \$32,900; 2.5 Acres overlooking Ross Lake - \$39,000;

Andrew Hodgson 286-2138

Sharon Lake \$215,000



Cosy 2 BR on no-motor lake. Original pine plank flooring, new pine ceilings and over 400sq.ft. of decking. End of road location and 5 acre lot provides privacy.

Anne Moulton - 286-2128

Large home, Gelert \$249,900



Located on over 21 acres with pond, this 3 bdrm home is ideal for the large family and is suited to a home based business.

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138

Drag River Lot \$84,999



Beautiful secluded 2.8 acre lot with over 240 ft frontage on the Drag River. Driveway in, building lot cleared, minutes to Minden or Haliburton.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

Privacy & Tranquility 299,900



3 BR on level lot. 275' ftg on quiet lake limited to electric motors. Sand beach. Cathedral ceiling, hardwood floors, walkout deck. Pine "Haliburton" room.

John Hincks 286-2138

Here it is! \$539,000



4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 fireplaces, hardwood floors, vaulted pine ceilings, family room, large lakeside deck plus garage!

Erin Nicholls 457-2128

A Pleasure To Show - \$159,000



Put your feet up & enjoy the warmth, comfort & spaciousness of this wonderfully, private family home. Ideal in-town location.

Deborah Deremo & Andrea Wilson 457-2128

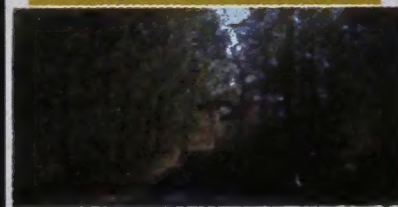
Kashagawigamog Lake Rd. \$211,000



3 BR, 2 bath bungalow in "ideally located" Ingoldsby. View of the Lake. Steps to lake access. MF laundry, Family rm with FP, sunrm, large deck, garage w/ workshop.

John Hincks 286-2138

Build your dream home 39,900



Private well treed 2.28 acre lot located between Minden & Haliburton. Driveway in, building lot cleared.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

Minden Bungalow \$249,900



Newly renovated brick bungalow with newer kitchen, ensuite bath and two garages off circular driveway. Immaculately kept!

Janice Brookes 457-2128

Bungalow \$174,900



This fabulous in town bungalow features 800+ sq ft., 2 BR, a detached 2 car garage, municipal sewers, within walking distance to all of Haliburton's amenities.

Drew Bishop - 457-2128

Cute as a Button \$245,000



Vintage 3 BR cottage, 720 sq ft, airtight woodstove on the perfect flat lot with flat rock and sand beach shoreline on a municipal road located in a quiet dead end bay.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Vacant Lot \$13,400



A corner lot (Pine Ave and Lakeview St) within walking distance to town amenities. Hydro and Telephone available.

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Eagle Lake Area \$219,900



3 BR, 2 bath chalet on over 3 acres of forested property with private pond. Open concept with large kitchen, private master floor with ensuite.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

* Sales Representative ** Broker *** Broker of Record



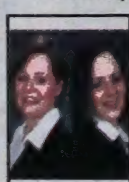
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Mark Dennys *
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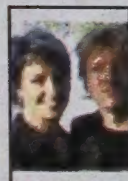
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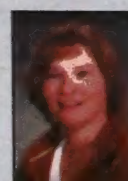
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